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Halifax County, North Carolina

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INTRODUCTION

Planning Area Location

Halifax County is located in the northeastern portion of the state on the Virginia border. The Roanoke River separates it from Northampton County on the north and east, Bertie on the east, Edgecombe and Nash on the south, and Franklin and Warren on the west. The county is bisected by Interstate 95, a major north-south route, and it is directly connected by Route 158 to Interstate 85 in Warren County about 25 miles from the western-most part of the county. The county lies about 150 miles from the North Carolina coast and about 260 miles from the nearest mountains. The county has an area of 722 square miles.

Halifax County History

The Tuscarora Indians are believed to have dominated the area of what is now Halifax County before the arrival of the white man; however, they may have numbered only a thousand. Excavations indicate that the Indians were numerous along the Roanoke River and Fishing Creek but few and scattered elsewhere. By about 1720, the Tuscarora migrated from the area to New York where they united with the Iroquois to form the powerful sixth nation of the Iroquois. Consequently, Halifax County had few if any Indians when the first white settlers arrived.

The first white settlers in Halifax County came from or through Virginia, and by 1732 people were living in all parts of the county. The early settlers were primarily an agricultural class who were looking for good farming and grazing lands. They established large farms along Looking Glass Run, Quankey Creek, Conoconnara Swamp, Marsh Swamp, Chockayotte and Deep Creeks, and they built what were for the times elegant country homes.

While the present County of Halifax was still part of Edgecombe County, the Town of Enfield was selected as the county seat so that its establishment in 1745 makes it the oldest town in the present Halifax County limits. In 1758, Halifax was formed from Edgecombe and named in honor of Charles Montague, Earl of Halifax, who was Secretary of the British Board of Trade. At the time of the formation of the county, it was felt that Enfield was too far from the center of the county to be the county town, and so the village of Halifax at the confluence of Quankey Creek and the Roanoke River became the new county seat.

Early in the national struggle for independence from England, sympathies in the county were strongly patriotic; thus, when the Provincial Congress met in the Town of Halifax on April 12, 1776, it passed the Halifax Resolves which are considered to be the first resolution by any American colony instructing delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence.

On November 12, 1776, the first Constitutional Convention of North Carolina met in Halifax to organize the new state government, and almost every session of the General Assembly from 1776 to 1782 met in Halifax. The county remained prominent in politics for many years sending a representative, Willie Jones, to the Continental Congress for several years and having one ambassador to France, John Branch, who also served in President Andrew Jackson's cabinet.

Halifax County has furnished five Governors for the state, a number matched by no other county in the state, and the county has also led in the number of members (fifteen) it has sent to Congress.

As the population in the state increased and shifted away from the eastern areas, Halifax County ceased to be a major center for the state. The county's towns have, for the most part, continued to serve a largely agricultural society, but manufacturing is coming into greater prominence.[1]

Origin of the Study

In the summer of 1975, the Halifax County Board of Commissioners signed a contract with the North Carolina Department of Natural and Economic Resources to prepare a land potential survey and land development plan for the county. The authorization for this study and plan grew out of the realization of a need for a local capability to assess impacts on land use and overall environmental quality as new development occurs.

How to accommodate growth and development so that the county benefits without harming or destroying its historic and natural inheritance is a significant problem for policy makers to deal with. A necessary tool for dealing with this issue is a good source of data about the county as it is now and any trends which are apparent. This information is compiled as the first portion of this document in the form of a land use potential study. When this data is accumulated and analyzed, decision makers and citizens are in a better position to determine what their goals and objectives for their county should be, whether present trends should be allowed to continue, or whether it is desirable for some new directions to be taken. The result of these decisions with regard to land use should be the land development plan which presents in graphic form and policy statements the expression of these goals and objectives. An important final phase is the development and exercise of the tools of plan implementation--zoning, subdivision regulations, code enforcement and others--in order that the stated aims may be realized.

Philosophy of the Plan

Although the land development plan is a document and therefore static by nature, it can be used to provide dynamic planning if it becomes part of an ongoing process. The plan is completed at one point in time, but is should never really be completed. If the ideals which fostered it change, then the plan should be altered to reflect that change, but the plan should not be ignored. It should become a growing document to reflect changing needs and desires of the people of Halifax County. Through their elected officials, through public hearings, and through other means citizens may make themselves heard, and it may be desirable to refine that process so that more opportunities exist for citizen participation in the planning process. Halifax County has an excellent opportunity while the planning process in the county is still young to establish a meaningful way to keep citizens well informed and to encourage responsible input from them. It is hoped that the activities undertaken in this development plan will enhance that goal.

---

[1] W. C. Allen, History of Halifax County, The Cornhill Company, Boston, 1918.

Goals for the County

The land potential study and the land development plan which evolves from it are more than a prediction or a forecast of what Halifax County will be like at some future date. The plan gives voice to the desires and hopes of all the people who have contributed to it by pointing toward purposeful directions through policies determined by the following community goals:

- Unique Community Qualities. The natural and historical amenities of the various communities within the county are recognized as positive qualities to be preserved and enhanced. At a time when standardized building materials and house designs serve to make one community much like another and urban sprawl tends to obscure community identify, it is desirable to create measures to counteract and forestall these forces. One purpose of this plan is to discourage sprawl and encourage conservation of unique urban features.

- Economic Balance. Commercial, industrial, and residential land uses should work in balance with each other in order to provide an economically balanced community. Diversity in the economy is desirable so that the county can remain viable even if one portion of the economy is depressed. A fair and equitable tax base is necessary, as well, if the economic well-being of the community is to be achieved.

- Social Opportunities. Adequate housing for all people of the county suitable for a variety of ages, incomes, family sizes, and occupations is desired.

- Regional Context. Halifax County is a member of Region L Council of Governments which also includes the counties of Northampton, Nash, Edgecombe, and Wilson. A plan for the development of Halifax County should take regional problems and strengths into account. Cooperation and coordination with the regional agency and other member governments is a goal of this plan.

- Transportation Balance. At a time of great concern about energy shortages, attention must be given to means of transportation other than the private automobile. In a primarily rural county, opportunities for the development of many modes of transportation may be unfeasible at the present time, but their usefulness in the future should be recognized.

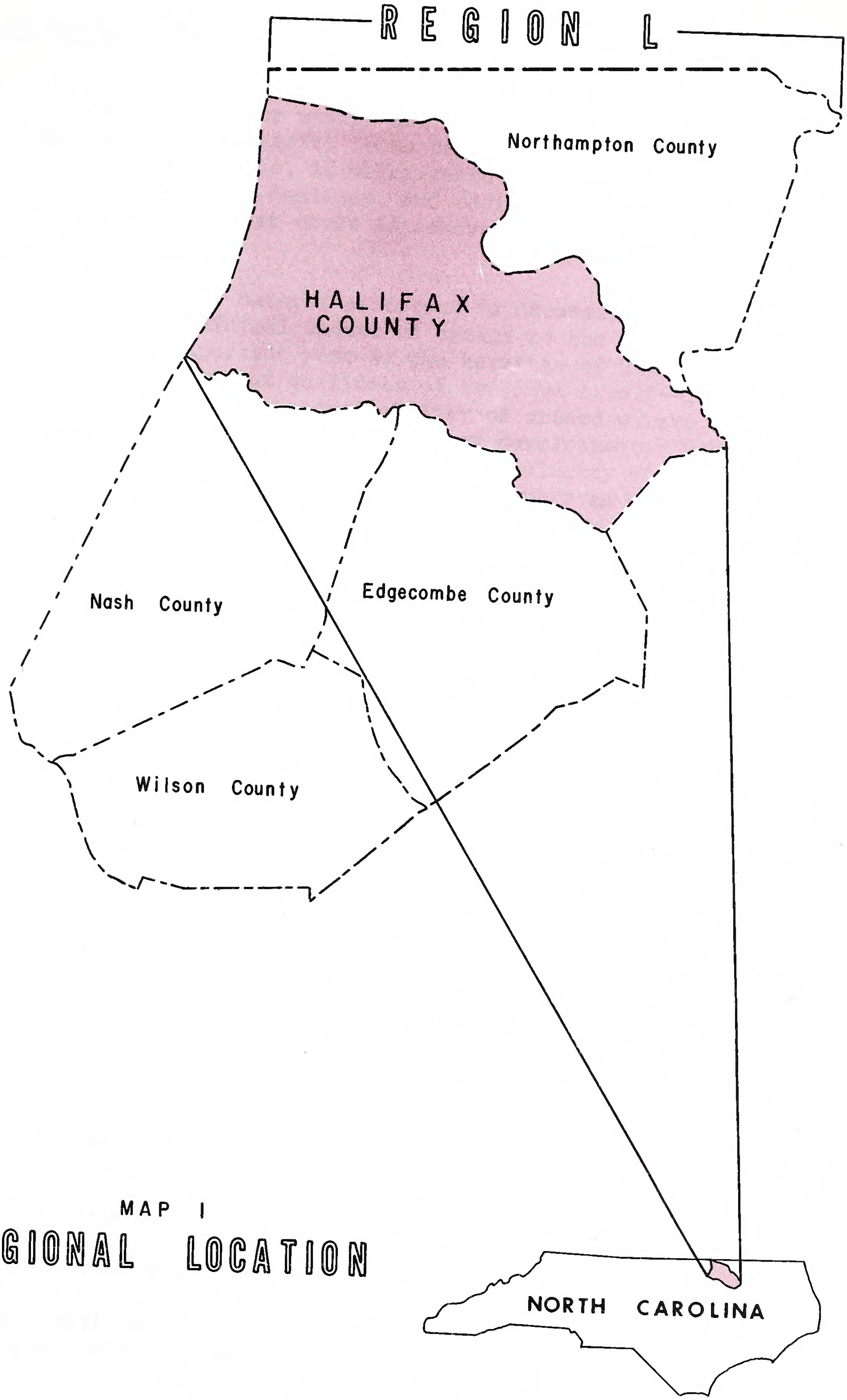
- Community Facilities. Facilities to house community services of all types should be planned to serve all citizens of the county as conveniently and well as practicable.

- Open Space. Distribution of recreation facilities on as equitable a basis as possible is desirable, in order that persons of all ages throughout the county might have opportunities to participate in physical activity. Multiple use of facilities should be encouraged, and site acquisition in advance of need should be promoted.

- Natural Resources. Halifax County abounds in fertile, well-watered land which provides agricultural products, timber, and wildlife in abundance. The river and creeks which furnish water for industry and residential consumption also serve as a habitat for wildlife. Both land and water are resources upon which the residents of the county depend for their livelihood and their well-being; therefore, they should be carefully managed.

- Public-Private Coordination. Both public and private interests should become involved in the decision-making process in order that the wisest choices may be made for the community.

- Town and City Centers. Towns and cities in the county should develop strong downtowns to provide local organization and form, reduce service costs, and maintain outlying areas for agriculture and open space.



MAP I

REGIONAL LOCATION

NATURAL FEATURES

Relationship of Natural Features to Future Development

Air, water, and land resources are necessary for the maintenance of life, and wise or unwise use of them determines their quality and abundance. The necessity to us of these resources gives them social value; for example, if water resources are allowed to become polluted, water quality declines, and additional costs are necessary for treatment. If forest cover is removed, wildlife habitats are destroyed.

A recognition of natural processes is necessary if development is to occur with a minimal amount of damage to the natural environment which is an important part of the heritage of Halifax County. Knowledge of the inherent qualities of the land itself--its load bearing capacity, drainage, availability of ground water, among others--will help avoid expensive, unsatisfactory development. Most land areas are intrinsically suitable for a multiplicity of uses; the most suitable uses may be determined by other factors as well, such as adjacent land uses. An analysis was made of the major natural elements of the county, including climate, geology, water resources, soils, topography, vegetation and wildlife.

Climate

Halifax County enjoys a mild climate with a long growing season which averages 199 days in Weldon in the northern portion of the county to 207 days in Scotland Neck further south. The mean annual temperature is about 62 degrees with the coldest period of the year in January and the warmest in July. The average date of the last killing frost in the spring is about April 10, and the average date of the first killing frost in the autumn is about October 28.

Annual precipitation averages about 44 inches with nearly 33 percent of the rainfall occurring in the months of June, July, and August. Average annual snowfall is approximately 8 inches.

Geology

In the western portion of the county are underlying rock of the gneiss, granite, slate, and schist varieties which lie in belts in a north-south direction. To the east, these rocks dip beneath the land surface with a slope of 15 to 20 feet to the mile to form the foundation or floor upon which the much younger sediments of the Coastal Plain were deposited. The eastern-most places where these bedrock are exposed are in the Roanoke River and Quankey Creek at Halifax and a few miles southwest of Enfield on Fishing Creek.

The significance of the geology of an area is enormous since the fertility and adaptability of soils for urban use are directly related to the parent rock. Similarly, the availability of ground water is dependent upon subsurface layers of rock.

Water Resources

Nearly all domestic water supplies, a number of industrial supplies, and four of the six municipal water supplies are obtained from wells. Shallow wells furnish the major portion of domestic supplies.

In the western part of the county, most of the wells are dug and are from 30 to 60 feet deep. Through the central part of the county both dug and bored wells are used. Through the eastern part of the county, bored and driven wells are most common.

Most of the failures in obtaining water from wells occur in granite, especially where it is near or at surface level and is unweathered or unjointed. One of the most difficult areas in which to obtain adequate municipal or industrial supplies is along the fall zone from Weldon through Halifax and Enfield. Here, relatively shallow wells with a number of well points in a well field seem to be the most satisfactory. At Halifax, it has been practically impossible to obtain even moderate water supplies from the bedrock.

The Town of Enfield and a number of domestic and industrial users have successfully located supplies in the permeable sands which lie no more than forty feet deep, but the shallowness of the wells creates problems during periods of drought, and pollution of the wells must be guarded aginst. Sand lenses which lie from 45 to 70 feet below the surface may also be used as sources of supply as is the case in Halifax.

There are a number of small springs in western Halifax County which have been used in the past as sources of water. Aurelian Springs consists of seven seepage springs which have low yields. Roper Springs, near Littleton, consists of several seepage springs yielding 20 gallons per minute. Magazine Spring at Halifax yields only about 0.1 gallon per minute, but its former yields were sufficient to supply the town. Rhea's Spring, near Roanoke Rapids, has yielded up to 50,000 gallons per day.

The chemical analysis of water from the county's wells is varied according to the sources, as might be expected. One unusual feature of some wells drilled in crystalline rock in the county is the large amount of solids, hardness, sodium bicarbonate, and chloride which are characteristic of other types of rock nearer the coast. The water appears to be diluted sea water which has not been flushed out from prehistoric times because of some structure impeding its free movement.

Wells supply water for four of the six municipal water supplies in the county: Enfield, Halifax, Scotland Neck, and Littleton. Roanoke Rapids and Weldon are supplied by the Roanoke River.[1]

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[1] M. J. Mundorff, Ground Water in the Halifax Area, North Carolina, North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh, 1946.

Since much of the water supply for municipalities and domestic users comes from wells tapping aquifers which depend on rainfall to recharge their supplies, it is important to maintain this process. As the land is built upon and paved, more rainfall is diverted into storm drains and not allowed to seep back into the aquifers. Although the county as a whole is rural, and the aquifers could supply much more water than they do at the present time, the areas dependant upon such sources of water should realize the relationship between ground water supply and impervious surface. Increased runoff also increases likelihood of stream flooding.

Vegetation and Wildlife

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, 277,185 acres of land in Halifax County or about 66% of the county's total land area was in forest land in 1974. Of that total all forest acreage was in commercial forest with the following ownership patterns:

national forest - 0 acres
miscellaneous federal - 27 acres
state - 1,877 acres
county and municipal - 243 acres
forest industry - 40,946 acres
farmer - 170,647 acres
miscellaneous corporate - 2,709 acres
miscellaneous individual - 60,736 acres[1]

Forest land in the county showed an increase from the 1958 total of 252,438 acres and the 1967 figure of 269,195 acres. The annual rate of increase from 1958-1967 was 751 acres rising in the 1967-1974 period to 1,127 acres.[2]

The primary tree types in the county are oak, hickory, loblolly and short-leaf pine, gum, cypress, elm, ash, and cottonwood, with oak, hickory and pine predominating.

As would be expected in an area with a high degree of forest cover, there is wildlife in abundance consisting largely of deer, rabbit, squirrel, dove, raccoon, and beaver with some duck, goose, and wild turkey. Anadromous fish whose habitat is the ocean but who spawn in rivers are plentiful as are warm water fish. The Roanoke River is famous for its large rockfish which are considered excellent game fish.

---

[1] Forest Statistics from the Northern Coastal Plain of North Carolina, USDA Forest Service Resource Bulletin SE-30.

[2] Region L Council of Government's Land Use Plan, 1973.

Topography

Halifax County lies within two physiographic provinces, the piedmont in the west and the coastal plain in the east. Route 301 from Halifax to Enfield approximately forms the boundary between the two.

The Town of Littleton on the west is one of the highest places in the county at about 388 feet. The western part of the county has large areas of flat or gently rolling upland which are interrupted by areas of much more rugged topography, usually adjacent to streams. Along Roanoke River, Fishing Creek, Little Fishing Creek and other streams in the northwestern and southwestern parts of county, the relief is from 100 to 200 feet.

The eastern portion of the county is primarily flat or gently rolling. The generally flat topography is interrupted by scarps or cliffs which are especially prominent along the Roanoke River near Tillery and Roseneath. The county's lowest elevation is where the Roanoke River turns eastward near Palmyra; the elevation is less than 10 feet above sea level.

The county is drained by the Roanoke River and Fishing Creek and their tributaries, with about two-thirds of the county drained by Fishing Creek and one-third by the Roanoke River. The streams all flow in a generally southeastward direction roughly parallel to each other. In the western portion of the county the streams occupy valleys generally 150 to 200 feet deep with narrow flood plains, but east of the fall line, the valleys are wider and more shallow with large flood plains. Stream gradients range from 1.4 to 2.0 feet per mile above the fall line, 2.5 to 5.0 feet per mile at the fall line, and 0.3 to 1.25 feet per mile below the fall line. The southeastward flowing streams have been able to cut into the sedimentary rock of the coastal plain more easily than into the crystalline rock of the piedmont, thus developing falls and rapids at the fall line.[1] Before the Roanoke River was dammed at Roanoke Rapids, the water dropped a total of 104 feet within a distance of 13 miles, leaving only a 28 foot drop for the remainder of its journey to the ocean.[2]

Soils[3]

Halifax County, an area of 722 square miles or 462,080 acres lies within two physiographic provinces, the western one-fourth being in the Piedmont province and the eastern three-fourths is in the Coastal Plain province. Approximately 51% of the county is in woodland or cut over timber.

---

[1] Ground Water in the Halifax Area, North Carolina.

[2] "A City's Heritage", a publication for Roanoke Rapids' 75th Anniversary celebration.

[3] Soil information prepared by the Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The general soil interpretations have been prepared from soil surveys carried out by Soil Conservation Service personnel, topographic maps, photographic mosaic of the county, older published surveys, and engineering interpretations from other detailed surveys and related field work.

The general soil map, interpretative table, and text when used together present a general, broad-overall picture of the soils and some of their major characteristics. None of the above are complete within themselves. It is not suitable for the selection, treatment, or management of small tracts of land. This map nor any other is a substitute for "on site" investigations.

The general soils map shows ten soil associations, their approximate location, and extent.

A soil association consists of two or more soils which make up the major portion of the landscape. Each of the soil associations is briefly described as to soil characteristics, location, and extent.

In selecting a site for a home, industry, or recreation, the suitability of the soils at each site must be determined. Some of the more common properties affecting the use of the soils for non-agricultural purposes are soil texture, reaction, soil depth, shrink-swell potential, steepness of slopes, permeability, depth to hard rock, depth to the water table, and flood hazard. On the basis of these and related characteristics, soil scientists and engineers have rated the major soils in each association for specific purposes. The ratings and the nature of the soil limitations that influenced the ratings are shown in Table 1.

The ratings used are slight, moderate, and severe. They are applied as the soils occur naturally and are defined below:

Slight - Soils have properties favorable for the rated use. Limitations, if any, are so minor that they can be easily overcome. Good performance and low maintenance can be expected from these soils.

Moderate - Soils have properties moderately favorable for the rated use. Limitations can be overcome or modified with planning, design, or special maintenance.

Severe - Soils have one or more properties unfavorable for the rated use. Limitations are difficult and costly to modify or overcome, requiring major soil reclamation, special design, or intense maintenance.

Building Sites for Residences - The ratings and limitations in the table are for houses that are not more than three stories high, without basements. The soil properties most important in rating the soils are bearing strength, shrink-swell potential (this is the tendency of a soil to shrink when dry and swell when wet), depth to a seasonally high water table, flooding, slopes, and depth to hard rock. The ratings are made separately on residences utilizing a sewerage system and for those depending on a septic tank with filter field for sewage disposal.

Soils that have slight limitations for use as building sites have slopes of less than 8%, are well drained or moderately well drained, free of flooding and depth to hard rock is more than 40 inches. They have low shrink-swell potential and are relatively free of stones and other coarse fragments. Soils that have severe limitations for this use have one or more of the following: slopes of more than 15%, are cobbly or stony; are less than 20 inches to hard rock, are wet (high water table), are subject to flooding or have high shrink-swell potential.

Building Sites for Light Industries (without basements) - These are structures such as stores, offices, and small industries that are not more than three stories high. The soil properties important in rating the soils for these uses are slopes, depth to a seasonal high water table, hard rock, flooding, and shrink-swell potential. It is assumed that a sewerage system is available and on-site disposal systems are not needed.

Soils that have slight limitations for light industries have slopes of less than 4%, low shrink-swell potential, are free of flooding, and the seasonal high water table is below 30 inches. Soils that have severe limitations for this use have one or more of the following: are subject to flooding, have seasonal high water table within 20 inches of the surface, have high shrink-swell potential, have slopes of more than 8%, or have low bearing strength.

Septic Tank Filter Fields - The term "septic tank filter field" refers to a sewerage system in which waste is distributed to a central tank and the effluent from the tank is dispersed over a fairly large area by filter field lines buried in the soil. The soil properties most important in rating the soils for the proper operation of such a system are depth to a seasonally high water table, depth to hard rock, flooding, slopes, and the percolation rate.

Soils that have slight limitations for septic tank filter fields have percolation rates of one inch per hour or greater, lack seasonally high water table that rises within six feet of the surface, do not flood, have slopes of less than 8%, are deeper than six feet to bed rock and are not excessively rocky or stony. In contrast, soils that have severe limitations for this use have one or more of the following: percolation rates slower than 0.6 inches per hour, seasonally high water tables that come within 4 feet of the surface, flood, slopes of more than 15%, bedrock within 4 feet of the surface, or are excessively rocky or stony.

Picnic Areas - This land use consists of park-type picnic areas. These areas are subject to heavy foot traffic but most vehicular traffic is confined to access roads. Preparation of an area consists of leveling sites for tables and fireplaces and building access roads.

The assumption is made that good vegetative cover can be established and maintained. Soil limitations for waste disposal and for playgrounds are treated as separate items. Important properties affecting this use are wetness, flooding, sloping, surface texture, and rockiness.

Soils that have slight limitations for picnic areas have a water table below 20 inches and are free from flooding during the season of use, have slopes less than 8%, and are free of mud and dust. In contrast, soils that have severe limitations have water tables above 20 inches for long periods or flood during the season of use, have slopes more than 15%, and are muddy or dusty.

Camp Areas. These are areas to be used intensively for tents and small camp trailers and the accompanying activities of outdoor living. Little site preparation is normally required other than shaping and leveling for tent and parking areas. These areas are subject to heavy foot traffic and limited vehicular traffic. The assumption is made that good vegetative cover can be established and maintained. Soil properties affecting this use are wetness, flooding, slope and stoniness.

Soils that have slight limitations have a water table below 30 inches during the season of use, are free of flooding, have slopes less than 8%, and are not stony. Soils with severe limitations have a water table above 20 inches or flood during the season of use, have slopes more than 15%, or are stony.

Playgrounds - These are areas that are used intensively for play, such as baseball, football, badminton, and other organized games. These areas are subject to intensive foot traffic. The assumption is made that good vegetative cover can be established and maintained. Properties that affect the use of the soil for playgrounds are those that affect intensive foot traffic and those that affect design, construction, and maintenance.

Soils with slight limitations for playgrounds have a nearly level surface free of coarse fragments and rock outcrops, good surface drainage and a water table below 30 inches during the season of use, freedom from flooding during heavy use periods, and a surface texture that is firm after rain and is not dusty when dry. Depth to rock is an important consideration on uneven slopes that require grading and leveling. Soils with severe limitations have a water table above 20 inches or flood during the season of use, have slopes of more than 6%, are muddy when wet or dusty when dry, or are stony.

Roads and Streets with the Subsoil for Base - Soils that have slight limitations for roads and streets are well drained or moderately well drained, have slopes of less than 8%, are not subject to flooding, have good traffic supporting capacity, and are more than 40 inches deep to hard rock. Soils have severe limitations for roads and streets where slopes are more than 15%, the soils are wet, they flood more than once in 5 years, or have poor traffic supporting capacity.

General Agriculture - The soils have been rated for their suitability for general agriculture. These ratings are based on 1) the suitability of each soil for growing all the major crops adapted to the county, and 2) the yield potential of each soil-crop combination under good management. The ratings of good, fair, and poor are explained below:

> Good - These are the best soils in the county for agriculture. All crops adapted to this area may be grown and excellent yields are attained with good management.
>
> Fair - These soils have moderate to severe limitations which limit crop selection and/or reduce yield potentials. These soils are either too wet, too steep or too sandy to be rated good.
>
> Poor - These soils have very severe limitations for general agriculture due to the high water table and very frequent flooding. Yields of adapted crops (water tolerant) range from poor to good but crop damage is very frequent due to flooding.

Woods - The soils have been rated for their suitability for growing trees. These ratings are based primarily on the site index of each soil. Site index is the average height in feet of the best trees of a given species in an even aged stand at 50 years of age. The ratings of good, fair, and poor are explained below:

> Good - These soils have a high to very high level of potential productivity for adapted species.
>
> Fair - These soils have a moderate to moderately high level of productivity for adapted species.
>
> Poor - These soils have a low level of productivity of adapted species.

Soil Descriptions

1. NORFOLK-ORANGEBURG ASSOCIATION. These are nearly level to sloping, well drained soils with sandy topsoils over yellowish brown to red, friable sandy clay loam subsoils, on coastal plain uplands derived from coastal plain sediments.

This association occurs chiefly on broad, smooth ridges. Slopes range from 0-10%. It makes up about 28% of the county and is scattered throughout the coastal plains section of the county.

Norfolk and "similar soils"[1] make up about 40% of the association and are well drained. They have sandy loam or loamy sand topsoils over yellowish brown to strong brown friable sandy clay loam subsoils.

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[1] The term "similar soils" should be interpretated as those soils having like or similar engineering interpretations.

Norfolk soils have slight to moderate limitations for most nonagricultural uses and are rated good for general agriculture.

Orangeburg and similar soils make up about 30% of the association and are well drained. They have sandy loam or loamy sand topsoils over yellowish red to red, friable sandy clay loam subsoils. Orangeburg soils have slight to moderate limitations for most nonagricultural uses and are rated good for general agriculture.

The rest of the association is made up chiefly of Wagram, Dothan, Fuquay, Bibb, Varina, Esto, Goldsboro and Rains soils.

About three-fourths of this association is cultivated or in pasture and the remainder in woods. The soils in this association are among the best in the county for general farming and also for nonfarm uses. They are well suited for all the crops grown locally, are easily tilled and crops respond to applications of lime and fertilizer. Gently sloping and sloping areas are susceptible to erosion and conservation practices should be used to effectively control this hazard.

2. GEORGEVILLE-CECIL ASSOCIATION. These are gently sloping to strongly sloping, well drained soils with silt loam to sandy loam topsoils over red, firm silty clay to clay subsoils on piedmont uplands and derived from "Carolina Slates", granite, gneiss and schist.

This association consists chiefly of fairly broad ridges of moderate slopes that break rather sharply to the drainageways. Slopes range from 2-25%. It makes up about 14% of the county and occurs in the piedmont section which is in the western part of the county.

Georgeville and similar soils make up about 70% of the association and are well drained. They have silt loam to silty clay loam topsoils and red firm silty clay to clay subsoils, derived from "Carolina Slates". Georgeville soils have slight to severe limitations for nonagricultural uses and are rated good to fair for general agriculture.

Cecil and similar soils make up about 20% of the association and are well drained. They have sandy loam to clay loam topsoils over red firm clay subsoils, derived from granite and mica gneiss. Cecil soils have slight to severe limitations for nonagricultural uses and are rated good to fair for general agriculture.

The rest of the association consists chiefly of Wehadkee, Herndon, Lignum, and Appling soils.

About one-fourth of this association is in cultivation or pasture and the remainder is in woods. The crops grown in this association are commonly corn, small grain, lespedeza, pasture and small amounts of cotton, peanuts and tobacco. Slope and the erosion hazards are the major problems with these soils. Conservation practices should be used to control erosion. These soils are somewhat difficult to till except under favorable soil moisture conditions, but crops respond well to applications of lime and fertilizer.

3. LIGNUM-GEORGEVILLE ASSOCIATION. These soils are nearly level to gently sloping, moderately well and somewhat poorly drained soils with silt loam topsoils over firm yellowish silty clay to clay subsoils mottled with gray, and gently sloping to strongly sloping well drained soils with silt loam topsoils over firm red silty clay to clay subsoils on piedmont uplands and derived from "Carolina slates".

This association consists chiefly of fairly broad, smooth ridges of gentle to moderate slopes that break sharply to the drainageways. Slopes range from 0-25%. The association makes up about 4% of the county and occurs in one large area in the southwestern part of the county in the vicinity of Hollister and Essex.

Lignum and similar soils which make up about 40% of the association are moderately well to somewhat poorly drained. Slopes range from 0-6%. They have silt loam topsoils and yellowish mottled with gray, very plastic, slowly permeable clayey subsoils, derived from "Carolina slates". Lignum soils have severe limitations for most nonagricultural uses and are rated fair for general agriculture.

Georgeville and similar soils make up about 40% of the association and are well drained. They have silt loam to silty clay loam topsoils and red firm silty clay to clay subsoils, derived from "Carolina slates". Slopes range from 2-25%. Georgeville soils have slight to severe limitations for nonagricultural uses and are rated good to fair for general agriculture.

The rest of the association consists chiefly of Herndon, Appling, Cecil, and Wehadkee soils.

Less than one-fourth of this association is in cultivation or pasture, and the remainder is in woods. The crops grown in this association are commonly corn, small grain, lespedeza, pasture, cotton, peanuts, and tobacco. Major problems are the seasonally high water table, high shrink-swell potential, and slow permeability of the Lignum soils. Erosion and slope are the major problems on the Georgeville soils. Conservation practices should be used to control erosion. These soils are somewhat difficult to till except under favorable moisture conditions, but crops respond well to applications of lime and fertilizer.

4. APPLING-CECIL ASSOCIATION. These are gently sloping to strongly sloping, well drained soils with sandy loam topsoils over yellowish red to red, firm sandy clay to clay subsoils on piedmont uplands and derived from granite, gneiss, and schist.

This association occurs chiefly on fairly broad ridges of moderate slopes that break rather sharply to the drainageways. Slopes range from 2-25%. The association makes up about 7% of the county and is scattered throughout the northwestern part of the county from the vicinities of Airlie and Roper Springs northward to the Roanoke River.

Appling and similar soils which make up about 75% of the association are well drained. Slopes range from 2-10%. They have sandy loam topsoils over yellowish brown to yellowish red firm sandy clay to clay subsoils, derived from granite, and mica gneiss. Appling soils are rated slight to severe for nonagricultural uses and are good to fair for general agriculture.

Cecil and similar soils make up about 15% of the association and are well drained. Slopes range from 2-25%. They have sandy loam to clay loam topsoils over red, firm clay subsoils. Cecil soils are rated slight to severe for nonagricultural uses and good to fair for general agriculture.

The rest of the association consists chiefly of Wedowee and Wehadkee soils.

About one-fourth of this association is in cultivation or pasture and the remainder in woods. The crops grown in this association are commonly corn, small grain, lespedeza, cotton and tobacco. The majority of the soils in this association are easily tilled, and crops respond well to lime and fertilizer. Erosion and slope are the major problems. Conservation practices should be used to control erosion. These soils are easily tilled under favorable moisture conditions.

5. DOGUE-WAHEE ASSOCIATION. Nearly level, moderately well to somewhat poorly drained soils with fine sandy loam to loam topsoils over firm to very firm, plastic clay loam to clay subsoils that are mottled in shades of yellow, brown, and gray, on stream terraces and derived from stream alluvium are characteristics of this association.

This association occurs on nearly level topography. It makes up about 5% of the county and occurs on low terraces of Fishing Creek and Roanoke River. The largest area occurs from Tillery southeastward to the Roanoke River.

Dogue soils make up about 50% of the association and are moderately well drained. They have fine sandy loam to loam topsoils and yellowish brown firm clay loam to clay subsoils that are mottled with gray in the lower part, and they are derived from stream alluvium. Dogue soils are rated moderate to severe for most nonagricultural uses and good for general agriculture.

Wahee soils make up about 35% of the association and are somewhat poorly drained. They have fine sandy loam to loam topsoils and very firm, plastic clay subsoils that are mottled in shades of yellow brown, and gray. They are derived from stream alluvium. Wahee soils are rated severe for nonagricultural uses and fair for general agriculture.

The rest of the association consists chiefly of Roanoke, Altavista, Wehadkee and Wickham soils.

Only about one-fourth of this association is in cultivation or pasture and the remainder is in woods. Wetness, slow permeability and low bearing strength are the major problems. Some low lying areas also flood. When properly drained the soils in this association are primarily used for pasture, corn, small grain, soybeans, and a small amount of peanuts and tobacco. These soils are difficult to till unless the moisture condition is perfect, but crops respond well to applications of lime and fertilizer.

6. BIBB-ROANOKE-WEHADKEE ASSOCIATION. These soils are nearly level, poorly drained soils on first bottoms and low terraces, subject to flooding, derived from stream alluvium.

This association occurs on flat, wet areas adjacent to or near streams. Slopes are less than 2%. The association makes up about 9% of the county. The largest areas occur along Beech Swamp, Deep Creek, Keehukee Swamp, Marsh Swamp and Conoconnara Swamp.

Bibb and similar soils make up about 40% of the association. They are poorly drained, first bottom soils formed in loamy alluvium. Bibb soils are rated severe for nonagricultural uses and poor for general agriculture.

Roanoke and similar soils make up 30% of the association. They are poorly drained, low terrace soils formed in clayey alluvium. Roanoke soils are rated severe for nonagricultural uses and poor for general agriculture.

Wehadkee and similar soils make up about 20% of the association. They are poorly drained, first bottom soils formed in loamy alluvium. Wehadkee soils are rated severe for nonagricultural uses and poor for general agriculture.

The remainder of the association consists chiefly of Lumbee, Wahee, Chewacla, Dogue, and Congaree.

Over three-fourths of this association is in woods with the remainder chiefly in pasture. Very little is in cultivation due to severe problems of wetness, flooding, and difficulty of obtaining suitable drainage outlets. Tillage is very difficult.

7. WAGRAM-NORFOLK ASSOCIATION. This association has nearly level to sloping, well drained soils with sandy topsoils over yellowish brown, friable sandy clay loam subsoils on coastal plain wetland, and it is derived from coastal plain sediments.

This association consists of very broad, nearly level to gently sloping ridges, breaking moderately to the drainageways. It makes up about 5% of the county. This association is somewhat scattered, but is confined to the higher coastal plain section of the county primarily northwest of Halifax.

Wagram soils make up about 75% of the association and are well drained. They have loamy sand topsoils, 20-40 inches thick, over yellowish brown, friable sandy clay loam subsoils. Wagram soils have slight limitations for most nonagricultural uses and are good to fair for general agriculture.

Norfolk soils make up about 20% of the association and are well drained. They have sandy loam topsoils, less than 20 inches thick, over yellowish brown, friable sandy clay loam subsoils. Norfolk soils have slight limitations for most nonagricultural uses and are good for general agriculture.

The remainder of this association is made up chiefly of Lynchburg, Rains and Goldsboro soils.

About three-fourths of this association is cultivated or in pasture, with the remainder in woods. The soils in the association are used mostly for the production of tobacco, peanuts, corn and cotton. The Wagram soils, having thicker, sandier surfaces, are droughtier and more infertile than the Norfolk soils. The crops respond well to applications of lime and fertilizer although leaching of the more mobile nutrients is a problem in the Wagram soils. The hazards of wind erosion on large fields of Wagram and water erosion on sloping areas of Norfolk require conservation practices for control.

8. LYNCHBURG-RAINS-NORFOLK ASSOCIATION. These are nearly level to gently sloping, somewhat poorly, and well drained soils with sandy topsoils over grayish to yellowish brown friable sandy clay loam subsoils on coastal plain uplands and derived from coastal plain sediments.

This association occupies broad smooth divides with gentle slopes near streams. It makes up about 16% of the county. This association is somewhat scattered over the coastal plain section with the largest areas occurring in the vicinity from Hobgood to Palmyra, Scotland Neck, Enfield and a large area about three miles south of Tillery.

Lynchburg and similar soils make up about 50% of the area. Slopes are less than 2%. The soils are somewhat poorly drained and have fine sandy loam topsoils over mottled yellowish and grayish friable sandy clay loam subsoils. Lynchburg soils have severe limitations for most nonagriculture uses and are good to fair for general agriculture.

Rains and similar soils make up about 25% of the area. Slopes are less than 2%. The soils are poorly drained and have dark gray fine sandy loam topsoils over predominantly gray friable sandy clay loam subsoils. Rains soils have severe limitations for nonagricultural uses and are fair for general agriculture.

Norfolk and similar soils make up about 15% of the area. Slopes are commonly less than 2%, but small areas range up to 6%. The soils are well drained and have sandy loam topsoils over yellowish brown, friable sandy clay loam subsoils. Norfolk soils have slight limitations for most nonagricultural uses and are good for general agriculture.

The remainder of this association is made up chiefly of Coxville, Exum, Nahunta, Grantham, Duplin, and Goldsboro soils.

About three-fourths of this association is cultivated or in pasture, and the remainder is in forest. This association is somewhat poorly drained, but by the use of open ditch and tile drainage, a large percent of the area is being cultivated and produces good yields of adapted crops such as corn, cotton, beans, tobacco and peanuts. Tillage on Norfolk is easy, but on Lynchburg and Rains, tillage must often be delayed until favorable moisture conditions are present.

9. WICKHAM ASSOCIATION. These are nearly level to gently sloping, well drained soils with brown loamy sand to fine sandy loam topsoils over yellowish red to red, friable to firm sandy clay loam subsoils on stream terraces and derived from stream alluvium.

This association occurs on broad smooth nearly level to gently sloping stream terraces. It makes up about 7% of the county and occurs along the Roanoke River and Fishing Creek. The largest areas occur from the vicinity of Norfleet to the Caledonia State Prison Farm and areas near Weldon.

Wickham and similar soils make up about 85% of the association and are well drained. Slopes are 0-4%. These soils have loamy sand to fine sandy loam topsoils over yellowish red to red, friable to firm sandy clay loam subsoils. Wickham soils have slight limitations for nonagricultural uses and are good for general agriculture.

The rest of the association is made up chiefly of Roanoke, Wahee, State, Dogue and Altavista soils.

More than three-fourths of this association is cultivated or in pasture, and only a small percent is in forest. Erosion is a problem with areas of Wickham soils on slopes that break to the narrow, wet draws of Roanoke and Wahee soils. Also, some low lying areas of Wickham soils may flood. The Wickham soils in this association produce high yields of adapted crops such as corn, soybeans, small grain, cotton, peanuts, and tobacco. These soils are easily tilled and crops respond well to applications of lime and fertilizer.

10. CHEWACLA-CONGAREE ASSOCIATION. This association has nearly level, somewhat poorly to well drained soils with loam topsoils over grayish and brownish friable loam to clay loam subsoils. They are subject to flooding, are on first bottoms and derived from stream alluvium.

This association occurs on first bottoms adjacent to streams, and slopes are less than 2%. It makes up about 5% of the county and occurs along the Roanoke River and Fishing Creek.

Chewacla and similar soils make up about 60% of the association and are somewhat poorly drained. They have loam topsoils over loam to clay loam subsoils. Chewacla soils have severe limitations for nonagricultural uses and are poor for general agriculture.

Congaree and similar soils make up about 30% of the association. They have loam topsoils over loam to clay loam subsoils. Congaree soils have severe limitations for nonagricultural uses and are fair for general agriculture.

The rest of the assocaition consists chiefly of Roanoke and Wehadkee soils.

Most of this association is in forest. The major problems are the seasonally high water table of the Chewacla soil and very frequent flooding of both Chewacla and Congaree soils.

TABLE 1 - DEGREE OF SOIL LIMITATIONS FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

SOIL GROUP	% OF ASSOC.	RESIDENTIAL	RECREATION	INDUSTRIAL	STREETS & ROADS
1) Norfolk-Orangeburg	90	Slight	Slight	Slight	Slight
2) Georgeville-Cecil	80	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Moderate
3) Lignum-	40	Severe	Moderate	Severe	Severe
Georgeville	40	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Moderate
4) Appling-	80	Moderate	Slight	Slight	Moderate
Cecil	10	Severe	Mod.-Sev.	Mod.-Sev.	Moderate
5) Dogue-	50	Severe	Moderate	Severe	Severe
Wahee *	35	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe
6) Bibb-Roanoke-Wehadkee	90	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe
7) Wagram-Norfolk	95	Slight	Slight	Slight	Slight
8) Lynchburg-	50	Severe	Severe	Severe	Moderate
Rains-	25	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe
Norfolk	15	Slight	Slight	Slight	Slight
9) Wickham *	85	Slight	Slight	Slight	Slight
10) Chewacla-Congaree	90	Severe	Severe	Severe	Severe

* Some low lying areas are subject to flooding.

Slight - These areas may be developed for the specified use at a minimum cost to the developer. There are normally no special precautions that need to be taken in the use of the land area.

Moderate - To develop these land areas for the specified use requires the expenditure of additional capital to correct soils limitations. To obtain a satisfactory site would require: 1) modification of the soil characteristics and/or 2) special engineering designs.

Severe - To develop these soil areas for specified land use would require extensive and costly modifications of the soils and the land area. Development of these areas should only be attempted after on-site soils and engineering investigations and recommendations.

	Suitability For	
s & ets2/	General Agriculture	Woods
	Good	Good
(TSC	Good to Fair (Sl)	Good
(TSC)	Fair (Wt)	Fair
(TSC)	Good to Fair (Sl)	Good
(TSC-	Good to Fair (Sl)	Good Good
(TSC)3/	Good	Good
(TSC)3/	Fair (Wt)	Good
(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Wt-Fl)	Good
(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Wt-Fl)	Good
(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Wt-Fl)	Good
	Good to Fair (Wt)	Good
	Good	Good
(Wt)	Good to Fair (Wt)	Good
(Wt)	Fair (Wt)	Good
	Good	Good
3/	Good	Good
(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Fl)	Good
(Fl)	Fair(Fl)	Good

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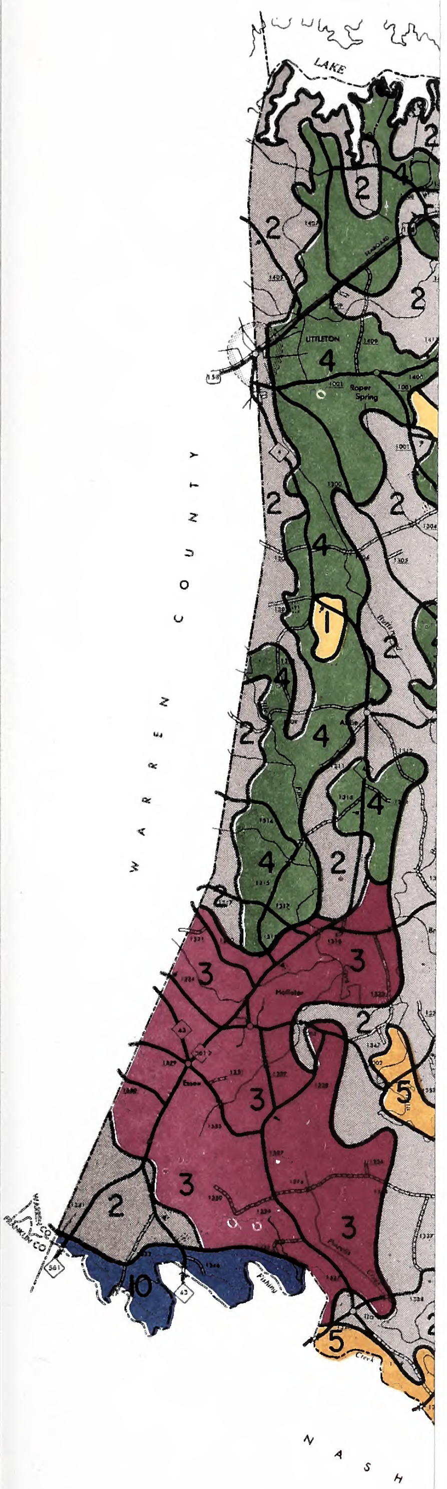
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FRANKLIN CO.
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Soil Interpretations
General Soil Map
Halifax County, North Carolina

LIMITATIONS FOR

Soil Associations	Soil	% In Assoc.	Dwellings with		Recreation					Suitability For	
			Sewerage Systems	Septic Tank Filter Fields	Camp Sites	Picnic Areas	Intensive Play Areas	Light Industries1/	Roads & Streets2/	General Agriculture	Woods
1. Norfolk-Orangeburg (28% county)	Norfolk Orangeburg	55 35	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev. (Sl)	Slt.	Good	Good
2. Georgeville-Cecil (14% county)	Georgeville Cecil	70 20	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Mod.(Perr-Sl) to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev. (Sl)	Mod. (TSC -Sl)	Good to Fair (Sl)	Good
3. Lignum-Georgeville (4% county)	Lignum	40	Sev.(Sh-Sw)	Sev.(Perc-Wt)	Mod.(Wt-Pert)	Mod.(Wt)	Mod.(Wt-Perc)	Sev.(Sh-Sw)	Sev.(TSC)	Fair (Wt)	Fair
	Georgeville	40	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Mod.(Perc-Sl) to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Mod. (TSC) (Sl)	Good to Fair (Sl)	Good
4. Appling-Cecil (7% county)	Appling Cecil	75 15	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Mod.(Perc-Sl) to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Slt. to Sev.(Sl)	Mod.(TSC-Sl)	Good to Fair (Sl)	Good Good
5. Dogue-Wahee (5% county)	Dogue	50	Sev.(Bs)3/	Sev.(Wt-Perc)3/	Mod.(Perc)3/	Slt.3/	Mod.(Perc)3/	Sev.(Bs)3/	Sev.(TSC)3/	Good	Good
	Wahee	35	Sev.(Wt-Bs)3/	Sev.(Wt-Bs-Perc)3/	Sev.(Wt)3/	Sev.(Wt)3/	Sev.(Wt)3/	Sev.(Bs)3/	Sev.(TSC)3/	Fair (Wt)	Good
6. Bibb-Roanoke-Wehadkee (9% county)	Bibb	40	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Wt-Fl)	Good
	Roanoke	30	Sev.(Wt-Fl-Bs)	Sev.(Wt-Fl-Bs-Perc)	Sev.(Wt-Fl-Perc)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl-Perc)	Sev.(Wt-Fl-Bs)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Wt-Fl)	Good
	Wehadkee	20	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Wt-Fl)	Good
7. Wagram-Norfolk (5% county)	Wagram Norfolk	75 20	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.to Mod. (Sl)	Slt.to Mod. (Sl)	Slt	Good to Fair (Wt)	Good
										Good	Good
8. Lynchburg-Rains-Norfolk (16% county	Lynchburg	50	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Mod.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Mod.(Wt)	Good to Fair (Wt)	Good
	Rains	25	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Sev.(Wt)	Fair (Wt)	Good
	Norfolk	15	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.	Slt.to Mod. (Sl)	Slt.to Mod. (Sl)	Slt.	Good	Good
9. Wickham (7% county)	Wickham	85	Slt.3/	Slt.3/	Slt.3/	Slt.3/	Slt.3/	Slt.3/	Slt.3/	Good	Good
10. Chewacla-Congaree (5% county)	Chewacla	60	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Sev.(Wt-Fl)	Poor(Fl)	Good
	Congaree	30	Sev.(Fl)	Sev.(Fl)	Sev.(Fl)	Sev.(Fl)	Sev.(Fl)	Sev.(Fl)	Sev.(Fl)	Fair(Fl)	Good
			Slopes 8% impose limitations; 8-15%-Mod.; 15%+-Sev.	Slopes 8% impose limitations; 8-15%-Mod.; 15%+-Sev.	Slopes 8% impose limitations; 8-15%-Mod.; 15%+-Sev.	Slopes 8% impose limitations; 8-15%-Mod.; 15%+-Sev.	Slopes 2% impose limitations; 2-6%-Mod.; 6%+-Sev.	Slopes 4% impose limitations; 4-8%-Mod.; 8%+-Sev.	Slopes 8% impose limitations; 8-15%-Mod.; 15%+-Sev.		

Abbreviations for Limiting Factors:
Bs - Bearing Strength
Fl - Flood Hazard
Wt - Water Table

Sh-Sw - Shrink-swell potential

Perc - Percolation rate

TSC - Traffic supporting capacity
Prod - Productivity

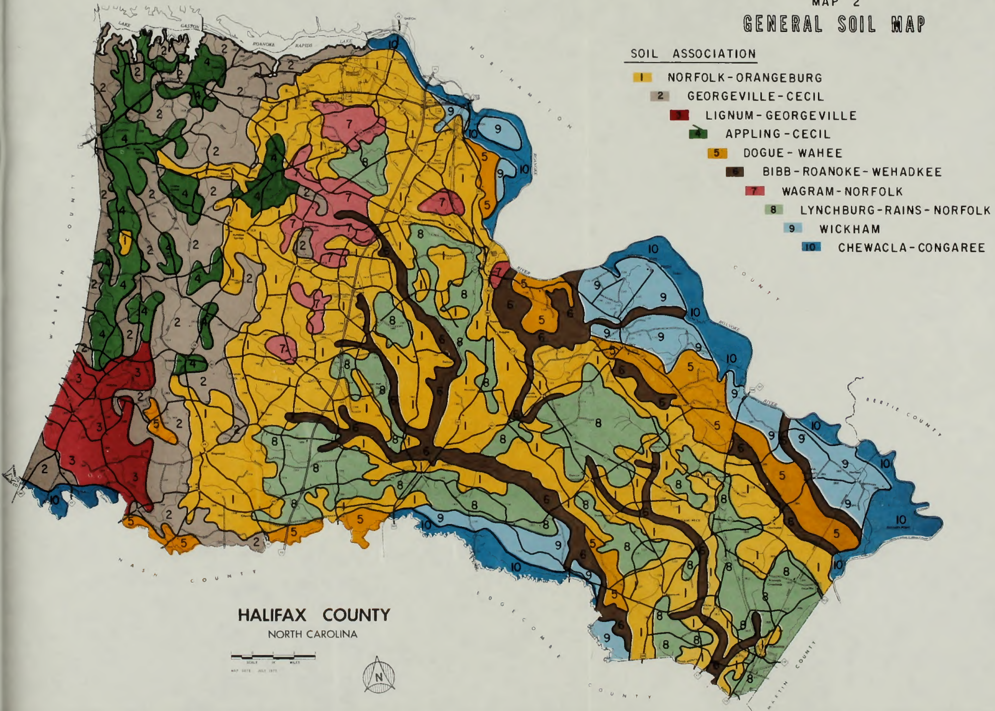
Sl - Slope

Abbreviations for degree of limitations:
Slt. - Slight
Mod. - Moderate
Sev. - Severe

1/ Structures whose footings are in subsoil.

2/ Refers to roads and streets that have subsoil for base.

3/ Some lowlying areas are subject to flooding; such areas may be more severely limited for use than indicated.

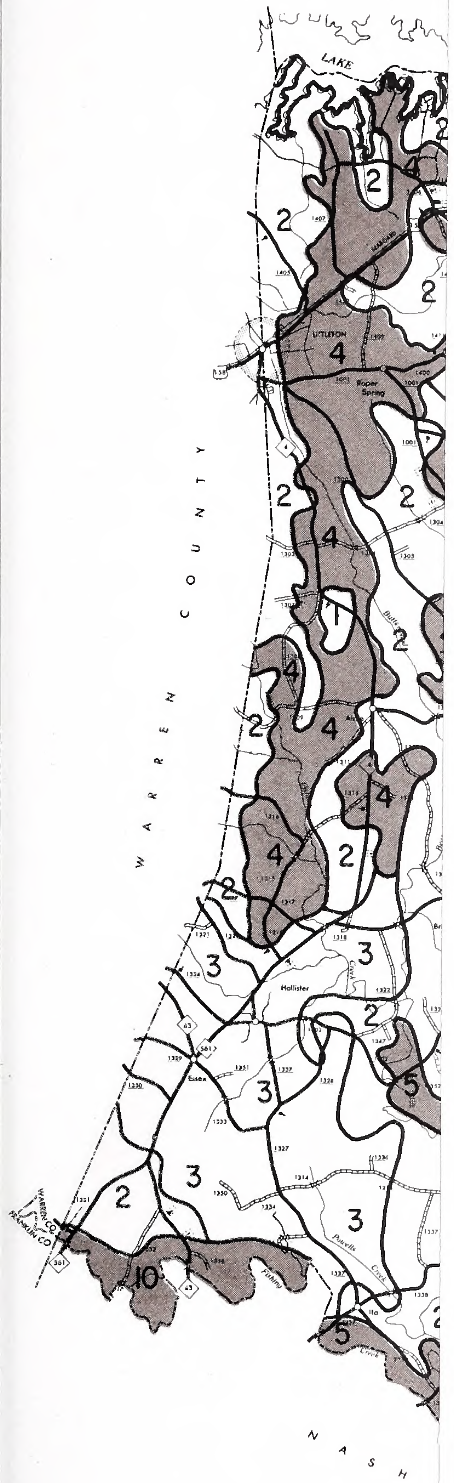


MAP 2

GENERAL SOIL MAP

HALIFAX COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA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Roper Spring
Hollister
Essex
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FRANKLIN CO.
Butts
Powells Creek
Fishing
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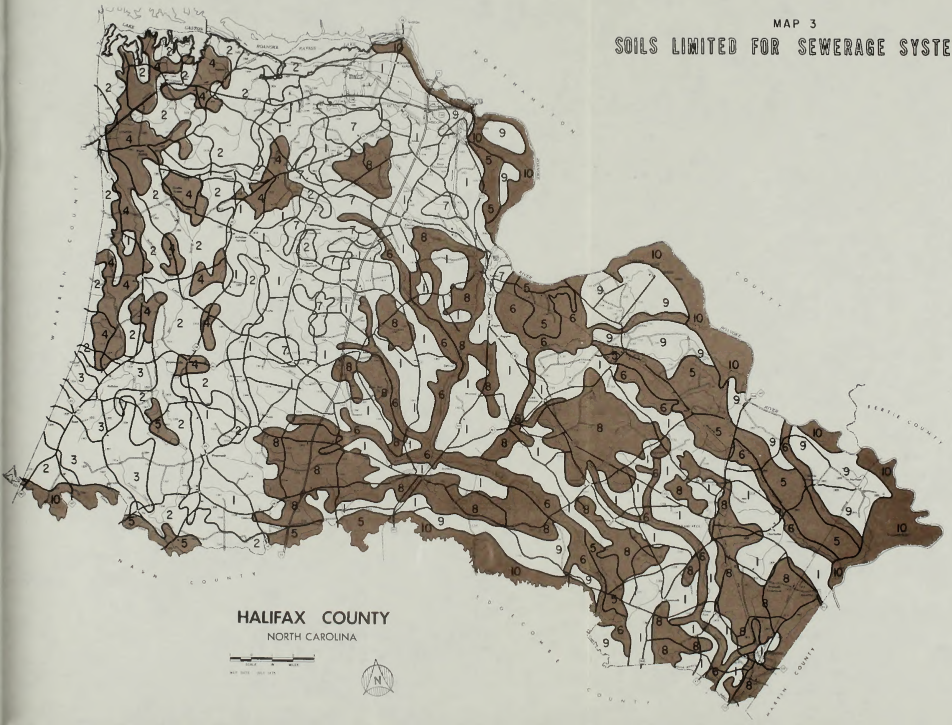
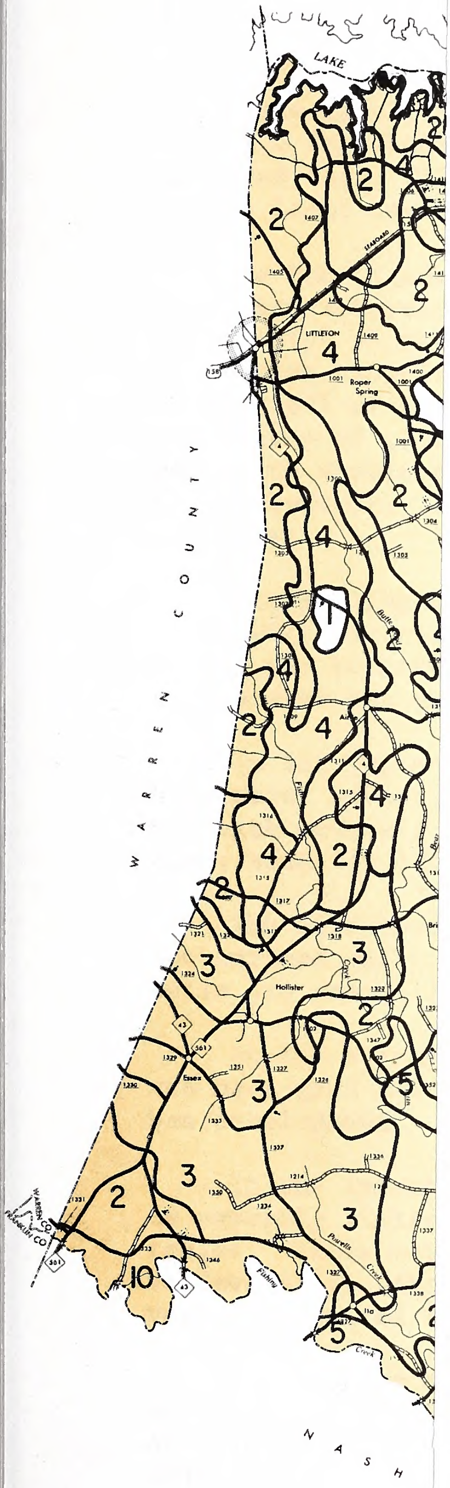
MAP 3

SOILS LIMITED FOR SEWERAGE SYSTEMS




LAKE
SEABOARD
LITTLETON
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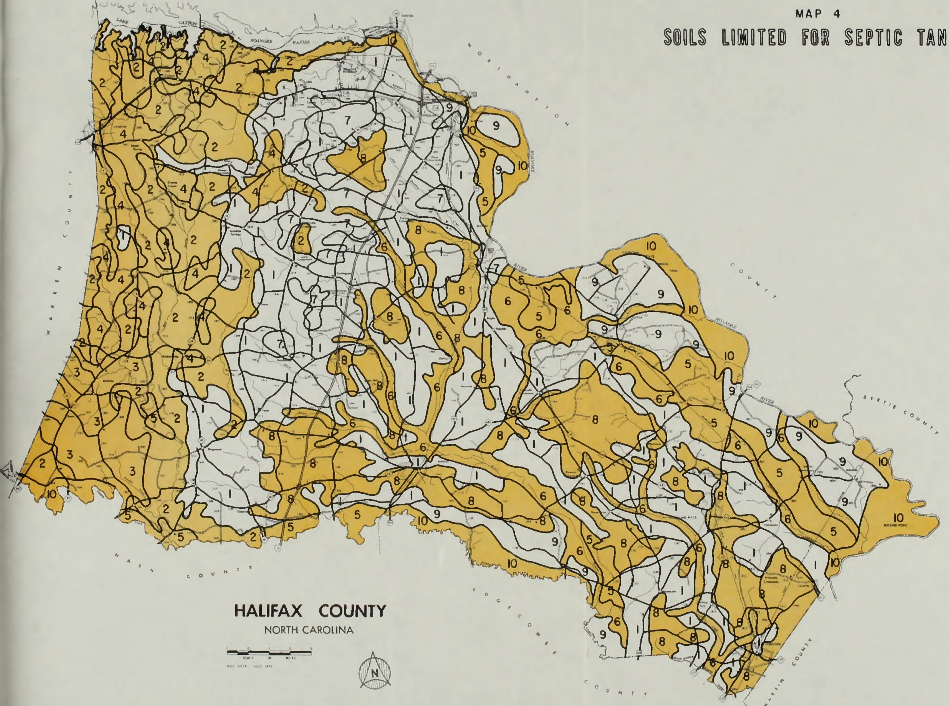
Roper Spring
WARREN COUNTY
Hollister
Essex
43
561
WARREN CO.
FRANKLIN CO.
Fishing
Powells Creek
Creek
NASH

MAP 4

SOILS LIMITED FOR SEPTIC TANKS



From Table 1, the Norfolk-Orangeburg Association consists of well drained coastal plain soils with good percolation rates. Small areas have excessive slopes that limit development but the association is mostly well suited to urban development.

In the Georgeville-Cecil Association, 80% of these well drained soils are fairly well suited to development. Percolation rates of .6 - 1.0 inch/hour are typical, and homes with septic tank systems may need large filter fields. In about 10% of the area, excessive slopes limit development.

In the Lignum-Georgeville Association, 40% of these piedmont soils are severely limited for development because of seasonally high water, high shrink-swell potential, slow percolation, poor traffic supporting capacity, and poor bearing strength of the subsoil. However, another 40% of this area consists of well drained soils with percolation rates of .6 to 1.0 inch/hour. Large filter fields may be necessary with septic tank systems, but these soils are fairly well suited to development. A few areas have excessive slopes that limit development.

The Appling-Cecil Association consists of well drained piedmont soils with percolation rates of .6 to 1.0 inch/hour. Large filter fields may be needed for homes with septic tank systems. About 10% of the area has excessive slopes that limit development.

In the Dogue-Wahee Association, slow percolation, seasonally high water tables, poor traffic supporting capacity, and low bearing strength severely limit the development of these stream terrace soils. Also, some low lying areas are subject to flooding.

The Bibb-Roanoke-Wehadkee Association consists of poorly drained low terrace and first bottom soils that flood very frequently. These soils are generally unsuited for development.

In the Wagram-Norfolk Association, the soils are well drained and have good percolation rates. They are very well suited for urban development.

In the Lynchburg-Rains-Norfolk Association about 75% of the area is severely limited for urban development by seasonally high water tables. These wet coastal plain soils must be drained before they can be developed. About 15% of this association is well drained and is very well suited for urban development.

The Wickham Association is about 85% well drained stream terrace soils that have good percolation rates for septic tank systems. Although some low lying areas are subject to flooding, most of the land in this association is well suited for urban development.

The Chewacla-Congaree Association consists of soils on first bottoms that flood frequently. These areas are generally unsuited for development.

Water Quality

The two major streams in the county, the Roanoke River and Fishing Creek, receive pollutants from the municipalities along their courses. Halifax, Weldon, and Roanoke Rapids are joined together in a 201 Facilities Plan which will identify sources of water pollution and propose solutions to remedy the problems. Scotland Neck is also engaged in a 201 Facilities Plan as is the Town of Enfield. These studies should be completed for the most part during 1976 and installation of needed facilities begun.

Other non-point sources of water pollution are from agricultural activities such as logging, animal production, and crop cultivation. These are difficult to deal with since they cover a wide area and sometimes run counter to time honored practices.

Air Quality

Except for some air quality problems which exist in the Roanoke Rapids area from textiles and a pulp mill, both of which are in the process of seeking solutions to their problems, air quality in the county is satisfactory.

Intrinsic Land Suitability

All kinds of development are governed to some extent by land suitability since such features as steep terrain add expense to site preparation, and sites which are extremely steep are often passed over for land with more level topography which may be more expensive to acquire but less expensive to prepare. Sometimes, however, land which should not be developed for a particular use may be inexpensive both to acquire and to develop, but it may have negative costs which are not immediately discernible. A flood plain is usually flat, and site preparation is relatively simple, but the ultimate costs outweigh the low initial costs if the land becomes flooded. Filling such an area might elevate a building beyond flood level, but the filled area in an upstream area may encourage further flooding downstream. Other costs to the wider community such as the costs of the removal of prime farm land from cultivation for another use should also be considered in determining the suitability of land for various uses.

Land Suitability for Residences

When a perspective buyer or builder picks a homesite on suitable land, expensive problems such as settling and cracking can be avoided.

The degree of wetness of many soils influences the bearing value for foundations and the desirability of the site for lawns. Poorly drained soils need surface or subsurface drainage to remove excess water. Wet and poorly drained soils limit the choice of suitable grasses and shrubs.

When slopes exceed ten percent, additional engineering and construction costs may be incurred. The capacity of different soils to support loads varies considerably. Some soils are stable when they are dry, but they are unstable when they become wet. The bearing value of soils is related to the soil moisture content in specific soils. Areas which are prone to flood have severe limitations for use as homesites.

Land which is suitable for homesites has deep, well drained, permeable soils, slopes gently or is level, is free from flooding, and has low slide potential. Suitability of soils for septic tanks is an important consideration where community water and sewer are not available.

Suitability of Land for Heavy Building

Good drainage and capability of supporting large loads without uneven settling or sliding are characteristics of soils suitable for heavy industrial, commercial, or residential building. In evaluating land for heavy building sites, an appraisal of the underlying geology and other features should be made.

Sites which are most suited to heavy construction are well drained and have good load bearing capacity. Less suitable sites can be developed, but more careful engineering and more expensive construction are required.

Suitability of Land for Recreation Development

Areas suitable for recreational sites are generally those which have moderate slopes or are nearly level and have soils which are not sticky when wet. Areas suitable for picnicking are free from flooding and are reasonably level. Public playgrounds should be located where drainage is good and there is no flood hazard. Playgrounds should be level and have a course or medium soil which provides good drainage and which can withstand heavy foot traffic.

Suitability of Land for Conservation

Land should be set aside for conservation for two major reasons: it serves as an important resource in its natural state such as marshland or development upon such land will result in unnecessary expense to the individual or to the community such as unwise development of the flood plain which results in property loss.

The Roanoke River is a valuable resource for industrial purposes, but its value and the value of other water courses in the county as wildlife habitats should be considered seriously as land use decisions are made which might affect wildlife. Marshland should also be retained in its natural state since such areas serve as breeding places for many forms of plant and animal life. Other areas where conservation should be practiced are areas of intense aquifer recharge in order to prevent pollution of underground domestic water supplies and to protect the health of citizens.

Wherever steep slopes occur in the county (10 to 30 percent), which is most often along the banks of water courses, construction should be avoided since heavy traffic would create erosion and siltation problems. Trees and other vegetative cover should be preserved on slopes to assist in soil retention. Flood plains of water courses should not be used for most urban purposes since soils are unsuitable and the areas are likely to be flooded periodically.

Another important aspect of conservation is for the preservation of historical and archeological sites and artifacts. The known presence of early Indian tribes in the county makes it especially important to contact the archeological survey section of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources before excavation or land disturbance of significance is begun, particularly along water courses since remnants of these early people are most often found here. An archeological survey should also be conducted on historic sites before land is disturbed in order that artifacts may be retrieved and preserved.

The following Halifax County objects, structures and sites have been identified as having historical significance:

(NR) means on the National Register of Historic Places. (HD) means the historic district.

THE ARTS

Bumpass-Parker House. SR 1003, east of SR 1110, Enfield vicinity. Gambrel roof house, possible eighteenth century; enclosed stair, flush paneling among early features. Private.

Cellarfield House. (See Political)

Clerk's Office. Halifax. Ca. 1832. Interesting brick building with stepped gables. Public. (NR) (HD)

Conocanara. Halifax vicinity. Date unknown. Two-story frame house with Federal and Greek Revival elements.

County Clerk's Office. Halifax. Late nineteenth century. One-story brick building with tower, Italianate style. Public.

Davie, William R., House. (See Political)

Eagle Tavern. (See Society)

Ellis House. Off NC 4, Hollister vicinity. Small one-story dwelling with interesting vernacular early Federal interiors. Private.

Ferrell, Michael Countinghouse. (See Technology)

Gregory, Fletcher, House. Halifax. Early twentieth century. Two-story frame house with grandiose Corinthian portico.

Grove House, Site. (See Political)

Halifax Baptist Church. Halifax. Simple Greek Revival frame church. Private.

Hancock-Musselman House. Halifax. Date unknown. A two-story frame house with single-story shed porch. Private.

Hermitage (Thomas Blount Hill House). Ca. 1800. Tillery vicinity. Tripartite house characteristic of area, with good proportions, rich vernacular Adamasque ornament. Many outbuildings of fine quality.

Historic Halifax State Historic Site. (See Political)

House. Halifax. Ca. 1790. A one-story frame structure with well executed details.

Ivy Hill. Hollister vicinity. Late eighteenth century and Ca. 1852. Two two-story structures joined, one Georgian, the other Greek Revival; each well-executed example of period.

Little Manor (Mosby Hall). End of dirt road at end of Mosby Avenue, Littleton. One of the finest, if not the finest, examples of the Federal style in North Carolina and one of the more important examples in the nation. Rear portion believed to have been eighteenth century home of Thomas Person, anti-federalist leader; large front section built for William P. Little in the early nineteenth century. (NR)

Magnolia. NC 258 north of Scotland Neck. Typical, well-preserved Greek Revival plantation house; landscape gardening reputedly done by Dr. Chashire, father of Bishop Joseph Blount Chashire.

Myrtle Hill. SR 1003, near Enfield. Federal period plantation house with handsome detail; outbuildings include Greek Revival office.

Neathey House. Halifax. Ca. 1850. One-story frame cottage on high foundation with enclosed porch; Greek Revival.

Oakland (Thorne House). Airlie. Ca. 1820. Important temple-form member of Warren-Halifax group of distinctive late Federal houses of "Montmorenci School". Private.

Owens House. Halifax. Ca. 1760. Good example of gambrel roof building. State-owned.

Patterson House. NC 4, north of Airlie. Eccentric Queen Anne style house with polygonal core with cupola, projecting wings. Private.

Person's Ordinary. South side SR 1001, between junctions with SR 1301 and NC 4, Littleton. Restored one and one half weatherboarded structure with stone and brick exterior and chimneys. The ordinary or inn is of special significance because of its association with Thomas Person, one of the state's most significant political leaders from 1760 to 1790. He was active in agitation for separation from England before the Revolution. After the war he led the anti-Federalists in the region. One of the most significant accomplishments was his role in obtaining the charter for the University of North Carolina in 1791.

Price House. Halifax. Date unknown. Federal period house, Victorian remodeling. Private.

Ravenswood. Halifax vicinity. Ca. 1790. One-story frame house on a brick foundation laid in English bond. Ruin. Private.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church. King Street, Halifax. 1854. Pleasant board-and-batten carpenter Gothic church. Private.

Sally-Billy House. Halifax. Ca. 1800. Tripartite house with narrow one-bay central block and extraordinarily rich detail. Private. (NR)

Shell Castle. Enfield vicinity. 1791. Large two and one half story frame house of impressive scale with unusual interiors; many original dependencies. Private. (NR)

Smith House (Kelvin Grove). NC 258 north of Scotland Neck. 1800 and later. Large two-story house, many elements and periods combined; pedimented five-bay central block, two-bay, two-story wings. Gilbert Elliott reportedly lived here while building ram Albemarle.

Strawberry Hill. Halifax vicinity. Ca. 1790. Interesting late Federal house, English bond foundation, Flemish chimney; later elements added. Private.

Trinity Episcopal Church. Scotland Neck. 1854. Good Gothic Revival brick structure. Private.

EDUCATION

Scotland Neck Military Academy. South Church Street, Scotland Neck. 1891. Opened in 1891 by W. C. Allen for two and one half years as a male school. Private.

MILITARY

Albemarle (Ram) Construction Site. Off US 258, 6 miles northeast of Scotland Neck. Noted Confederate ironclad built in vicinity 1863-1864. Ownership unknown.

Smith House (Kelvin Grove). (See the Arts)

POLITICAL

Cellarfield House. Whitfield Street, Enfield. General Lafayette is reported to have spoken from the upper porch in 1825. Interesting two-story Federal house with madallion cornice. Governor John Branch (1817-1820) buried on property; was Secretary of Navy, United States Senator. Private.

Davie, William R., House. Halifax. Ca. 1783. Home of Revolutionary War general, Federalist political leader, governor of North Carolina, and "Father of the University of North Carolina." Handsome late Georgian side-hall plan house. Private. (NR)

Gallberry. Scotland Neck, 1885. Home of Kitchin family, three of whom were members of the United States Congress and one a governor. Private.

Grove House, Site. Halifax vicinity. Ca. 1765. Destroyed 1915. Home of Willie Jones, noted Revolutionary War figure and chief Anti-Federalist political leader after war. Plantation, including race track, site of social and political gatherings. Tripartite house perhaps earliest of form in state, influenced others in area. Public.

Historic Halifax State Historic Site. Halifax. Town chartered in 1757. Scene of much political activity during the Revolutionary War era, including Halifax Resolves (April 12, 1776), and adoption of state constitution (November 12, 1776); was trade center and lively village of taverns, cock fighting, racing, and social gatherings. (NR)

SOCIETY

Conoconara Church. Nine miles south of Halifax. Ca. 1849. Organized by the Society of the Church of England Ca. 1750; no longer in use. Private.

Eden United Methodist Church. Enfield vicinity. Anglican chapel founded Ca. 1760; present congregation one of the oldest Methodist churches in continuous operation in America, having endorsed Methodism by 1776. Building Ca. 1890. Private.

Halifax County Jail. Halifax. Ca. 1838. Two-story brick building. (NR) (HD)

Historic Halifax State Historic Site (See Political)

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Halifax. 1889. Organized as a mission church. Private.

Masonic Lodge (Royal White Hart Lodge). Halifax. Chartered 1767, building 1769. Joseph Montfort, "Grand Master of America" gravesite. Private.

Taylor, Jake, Law Office. Halifax. Small brick structure typical of those found in courthouse towns. Private.

Whitaker's Chapel. Enfield vicinity. 1850. Congregation founded in 1740; original site was scene of the first Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church of America, December, 1828.

TECHNOLOGY

Chaloner's Mill. Roanoke Rapids. Opened in 1895. Now the Manchester Board Company. Mill village designed by Stanford White. Private.

Chockayott Aquaduct. On Roanoke Canal at Weldon. Ca. 1822. An impressive stone structure of fine craftsmanship, part of the Roanoke Canal project. Private.

Cotton Press. At Cedar Grove, near Enfield. Nineteenth century. A cotton press used on the John Whitaker Place; dismantled, but parts said to exist near site.

Eagle Tavern. Halifax. Date uncertain. A tavern and center of social and political gatherings during Halifax's heyday. Tradition claims 1825 visit by Lafayette. Tripartite house expanded in mid-nineteenth century. Private. (NR)

Ferrell, Michael, Countinghouse. Halifax. Early nineteenth century. Used by Michael Ferrell as a countinghouse for his extensive business interests. Tripartite form characteristic of area. Private.

Roanoke Canal. Roanoke Rapids. Ca. 1822. Authorized by the legislature in 1790 and completed in 1822; dug by slave labor and financed by private subscription. Remains at Roanoke Rapids survive as well as Chockayott Aqueduct (above). Ownership unknown.

Weldon. Terminus of Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, 161½ miles long; longest railroad in world when completed 1840.

Halifax, North Carolina

1. Halifax County Courthouse: West side of King Street block between Pitt Street and St. David Street.

2. Masonic Lodge

3. Joe Dickens Dependency: South side of Pitt Street block between US 301 and Dobbs Street.

4. Hux House: South side of Pitt Street block between Granville and King Streets.

5. Price House: North side of Pitt Street block between Granville and King Streets.

6. Clark-Ferguson House: East side of Granville Street block between Pitt and Prussia Streets.

7. Wilcox-Morris House: East side of Wilcox Street, circled in rear by Bradley Drive.

8. House: East side of Dobbs Street, block between US 301 and Prussia Street.

9. Gregory-Tillery Dependency: Dobbs Street.

10. Travis House: West side of Dobbs Street block between US 301 and Prussia Street.

11. Froelich-Wheeler House: West side of Dobbs Street block between US 301 and Prussia Street.

12. Birdsong House: South side of Prussia Street block between US 301 and Dobbs Street.

13. Halifax Baptist Church: North side of Prussia Street block between US 301 and Dobbs Street.

14. Phillips House: North side of Prussia Street block between US 301 and Dobbs Street.

15. Commercial areas of note: West side of King Street between Prussia and Pitt Streets. East side of King (same).

16. Roanoke Hotel: West side of King Street block between Prussia and Pitt Street.

17. Branch Banking and Trust Company: East side of King Street, southeast corner of intersection of King and Pitt Streets.

18. Froelich - N. L. Stedman House: East side Dobbs Street between US 301 and Prussia Street.

19. J. T. Gregory - Tillery House: East side Dobbs Street between US 301 and Prussia Street.

20. Gregory House: East side of Dobbs Street between US 301 and Prussia Street.

21. Wilcox - Musselman House: East side of King between Prussia and Bradley Drive.

22. Froelich Store: West side of King between Church and Prussia Streets.

23. House: West side of King Street block between Church and Prussia Streets.

24. Gowan Griffin House: West side of King between Church and Prussia Streets.

25. Grady - Bass House: West side of King between Church and Prussia.

26. Immaculate Conception Catholic Church: East side of King Street between Bradley Drive and Prussia Street.

27. Fletcher - Gregory House: East side of King Street between Bradley Drive and Church Street.

28. St. Mark's Episcopal Church: West side of King Street between Bradley Drive and Church Street.

29. King Street Office Building: West side King Street between US 301 and Bradley Drive.

30. Daniel House: West side of US 301 at junction of US 301 and King.

31. Conigland House: One mile east on dirt lane at intersection of King Street and US 301 (off King Street).

*32. William R. Davie House (NR)

*33. State Historic Site

*34. Eagle Tavern[1]

Land Suitability for Agriculture

In order to maintain sufficient production of food and fiber for the nation, it is necessary for agriculturally suitable lands to be conserved for agricultural use. Good farmland has the following characteristics: it has the soil quality, growing season and the availability of water necessary to produce high yields economically on a sustained basis when it is farmed according to modern farming methods. Agricultural land includes forest land, pasture land, range land, and crop land.

In Halifax County the following soil associations are good for most agricultural purposes:

1) Norfolk-Orangeburg - The soils of this association provide the best farm land in the county. About 28 percent of the county has Norfolk-Orangeburg soils, located primarily in a broad central belt running north-south and extending through the center of the south-eastern portion of the county.

*(NR)

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[1] North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

2) Wickham - The Wickham Association provides the second best soils for agriculture in the county, but they are limited to about 7 percent of the county in areas along the Roanoke River and Fishing Creek. Although the soils of this association are very fertile, their alluvial nature makes them subject to periodic flooding and erosion.

3) Lynchburg-Rains-Norfolk - The third most desirable agricultural soils in the county are the soils of this association which make up about 16 percent of the county. These soils which are largely in the Hobgood, Palmyra, Scotland Neck, Enfield, and Tillery areas are poorly drained, but they can be made quite productive through the use of drainage devices.

4) Wagram-Norfolk - Soils of this association are the next desirable group for agriculture in the county. They make up about 5 percent of the county's soils and are located in scattered areas throughout the middle portion of the county.

5) Altavista-Wahee - Soils of this association make up about 5 percent of the county's soils primarily along low river terraces. Wetness, poor drainage, and flooding are characteristic of these soils, but with proper drainage, they can be made productive.

DEVELOPMENT FACTORS

Population

In planning for any area, one of the most important considerations is the population projected for the area since the demand for growth and development can largely be determined by such projections. Forecasts of utility needs, land needs, and public service requirements can be based on future population projections. Characteristics of the population such as age, sex, education, and income distribution are important in determining the need for public facilities. Many of the proposals made in this plan will be based on the population analysis.

Current Estimates

Since the 1970 Census survey was taken, the entire Town of Littleton has become part of Halifax County. From discussions with local officials and from the land use survey, there appears to be no other substantial deviation from the trend.

Table 2 outlines, in general, a growth pattern for Halifax County which shows that there was slow, steady growth until 1960 and an actual decrease between 1960-1970.

TABLE 2
POPULATION GROWTH RATE AND PERCENT OF CHANGE FOR HALIFAX COUNTY WITH PROJECTIONS[1]

Year	Population	Percent Change
1900	30,793	
1910	37,646	+22.2
1920	43,766	+16.2
1930	53,246	+21.7
1940	56,512	+ 6.1
1950	58,377	+ 3.3
1960	58,956	+ 1.0
1970	53,884	- .09
1980	53,100	- .01
1990	54,000	+ .02
2000	52,700	- .02

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[1] Derived from U. S. Census of Population, 1970.

Table 3 which follows shows population trends in the county by township.

TABLE 3
TOWNSHIP POPULATION TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS[1]

Year Township	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Brinkleyville	5,200	5,315	4,383	4,140	3,820	3,590	3,240
Butterwood	1,312	1,169	772	588	430	330	240
Conoconnara	1,797	1,913	1,618	1,006	910	770	620
Enfield	8,435	8,425	8,746	7,616	7,410	7,340	6,960
Faucett	2,972	2,814	2,522	2,089	1,840	1,670	1,440
Halifax	3,813	3,570	3,529	2,633	2,420	2,200	1,920
Littleton	3,669	3,668	3,149	3,846*	3,423*	3,355*	3,120*
Palmyra	3,053	2,771	2,128	1,546	1,230	1,000	770
Roanoke Rapids	13,472	15,607	17,664	18,505	19,670	21,590	22,510
Roseneath	1,588	1,653	1,550	1,104	1,040	940	820
Scotland Neck	5,462	5,122	5,699	5,013	4,890	4,910	4,710
Weldon	5,739	6,350	6,741	6,268	6,450	6,740	6,740
Totals	56,512	58,377	58,956	54,354*	53,533*	54,435*	53,090*

* Adjusted

An Analysis of Halifax County's Population

As Table 3 indicates the greatest degree of growth in the county in this century took place before 1940, with the largest percentage gains occurring between 1900-1910 and 1920-1930. Between 1940-1960, there were much reduced gains which occurred at a diminishing rate until the 1960-1970 decade when population loss is estimated to have been almost one percent of the population.

Population gains and losses by township with projections can be briefly summarized as follows:

Brinkleyville - Between 1940-1970, Brinkleyville Township lost a total of 1060 people or about 20 percent of its 1940 population. Projections for the year 2000 show losses of 900 people from the 1970 figure for a continued 20 percent reduction.

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[1] U. S. Census, Number of Inhabitants, 1970.

Butterwood - Butterwood's 1970 population of 588 diminished the 1940 figure by 40 percent. By the year 2000, Butterwood is projected to have a population of 240 if the 40 percent loss continues.

Conoconnara - Conoconnara Township experienced a population gain of 116 persons between 1940-1950 for a 6 percent gain but in the two subsequent decades there was a loss which created a 44 percent loss in 1970 compared with the 1940 figure. The township has a projected population loss for the year 2000 of 386 persons or 38 percent of the 1970 population. Past projections for this township have tended to be somewhat inaccurate with an over-projection in 1940 of 193, an under-projection in 1950 of 183, an under-projection of 158 in 1960, and an over-projection in 1970 of 114.

Enfield - Enfield had an increase in 1960 of 311 persons over the 1940 figure, but in 1970 the population dropped from 8,746 in 1960 to 7,616 for a loss of 1,130 persons in that decade. Thus the population in Enfield Township diminished by 10 percent between 1940-1970. The year 2000 population is projected to reduce the 1970 figure by 9 percent.

Faucett - Faucett has lost population consistently from 1940-1970 for a total loss of 883 persons or 30 percent. Projections for the year 2000 show a 30 percent loss from the 1970 statistics.

Halifax - In 1940, Halifax Township had a population of 3,813; in 1970, it had diminished by 1,180 persons or 39 percent. Projections show a 27 percent decline from 1970-2000.

Littleton - Littleton Township has increased in acreage and population since the entire town of Littleton which was formerly divided by the Halifax-Warren County line now is entirely in Halifax County. Littleton had lost 8 percent of its population during the 1940-1970 period, and was projected to decline by 19 percent from 1970-2000. Adjusted figures show that, had the change occurred before 1970, the township population would have been 3,846. Adjusted figures show a real decline by 2000 of 256 for a 19 percent decline.

Palmyra - Palmyra Township had a substantial 49 percent population decline between 1940 and 1970 for a total loss of 1,507 persons. By 2000, the township is expected to have 770 residents for a 44 percent decline from the 1970 figure.

Roanoke Rapids - The Roanoke Rapids Township has experienced more growth since 1940 than any other Halifax County township. Its 1940 population was 13,472 and its 1970 population was 18,505, a gain of 5,033 or 37 percent. Projections for the year 2000 show a growth by 4,005 people or 22 percent.

Roseneath - This township has declined by 484 persons or 30 percent in the 1940-1970 period, and it is expected to reach 820 population for a 1970-2000 decline of 74 percent.

Scotland Neck - In 1940, Scotland Neck's population was 5,462, and in 1970, it had declined by 8 percent to 5,013. The projected decline by 2000 is expected to be 303 people or 6 percent of the 1970 population.

Weldon - Weldon Township experienced modest gains in the 50's and 60's declining slightly between 1960-1970. The total growth in the 1940-1970 period was 529 persons or 9 percent. By 2000, the township is expected to regain its 1960 figure for a 1970-2000 gain of 472 persons or 8 percent.

In only two of the townships--Roanoke Rapids and Weldon--have there been population gains in the 1940-1970 period, and those are the only townships for which population gains are forecast. The 1970 total county population is expected to decline from 53,884 to 52,700 by the year 2000 for an actual population loss of 1,184 or 22 percent of the 1970 figure. Table 4 shows the sources of population loss.

TABLE 4
SOURCES OF POPULATION DECLINE IN HALIFAX COUNTY
1960-1970[1]

	White	Nonwhite	Total
Net Migration	-1,225	-11,010	-12,235
Population Change Rate	+ 2.9	- 19.8	- 9.0
Net Migration Rate	- 4.6	- 37.4	- 21.7
Natural Increase Rate	7.4	17.6	12.7

During the 1960-1970 decade Halifax County experienced a net out-migration of 12,235 persons, 11,010 of whom were nonwhite. At the same time the rate of natural increase among nonwhites in the county was 17.6, and among whites it was 7.4; therefore, the rate of natural increase among nonwhites far exceeds that of whites, but so does the net migration rate resulting in a negative population change rate for nonwhites and a positive one for whites.

The population for Halifax County by age and sex for 1970 is shown in Table 5.

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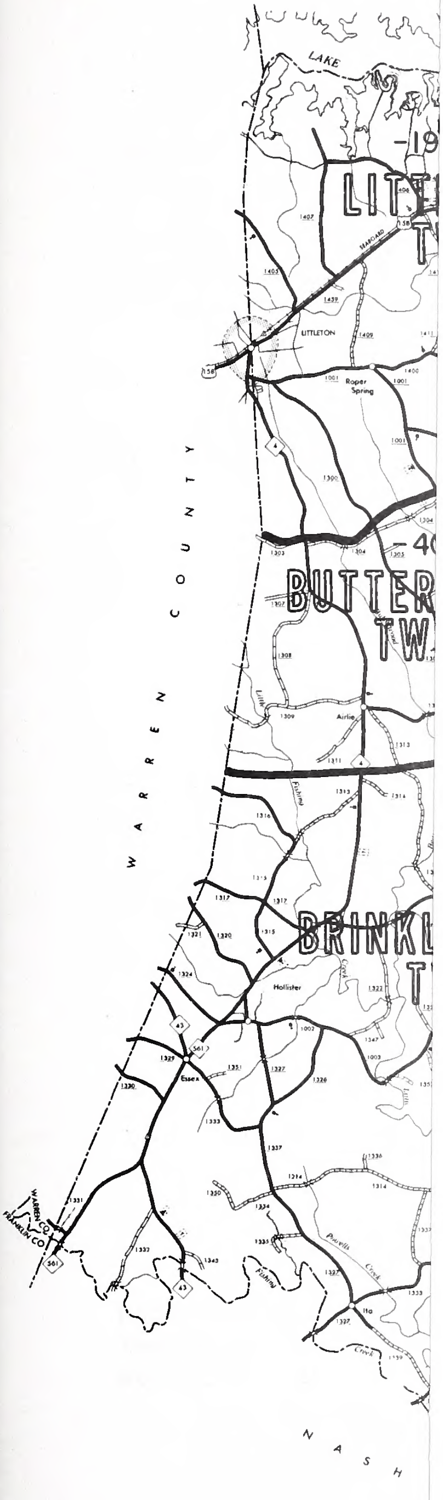
[1] C. Horace Hamilton, North Carolina Population Trends, Volume 2, Page 184.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LITTLETON
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SEABOARD
W A R R E N   C O U N T Y
N A S H
WARREN CO.
FRANKLIN CO.
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4
43
561
1001
1002
1003
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1409
1411
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Fishing
Pocwells Creek
Creek

MAP 5

PROJECTED POPULATION BY TOWNSHIP 1970 - 2000

+27% GROWTH

-24% DECLINE

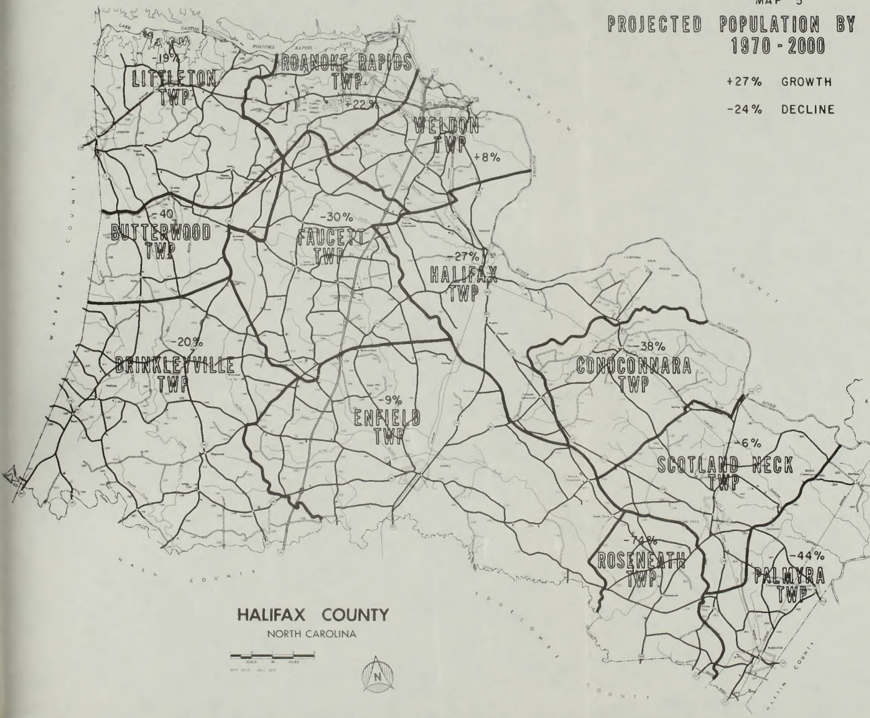

TABLE 5
POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX - 1970
HALIFAX COUNTY[1]

	Male	Female	Total
Under 5 years	2332	2597	4929
5	559	561	1120
6	546	568	1114
7-9	1799	1710	3509
10-13	2551	2495	5046
14	696	677	1373
15	637	615	1252
16	666	621	1287
17	623	670	1293
18	507	502	1009
19	373	376	749
20	331	390	721
21	312	350	662
22-24	1075	1032	2107
25-34	3815	3969	5784
35-44	3844	3147	5991
45-54	2943	3115	6058
55-59	1192	1422	2614
60-61	450	521	971
62-64	565	769	1334
65-74	1385	1863	3248
75 and over	666	1047	1713

Figure 1 which follows is a graphic representation of the 1970 population of Halifax County by age and sex. The population pyramid indicates that persons in some of the most productive years, ages 15-34, are in relatively short supply in the county.

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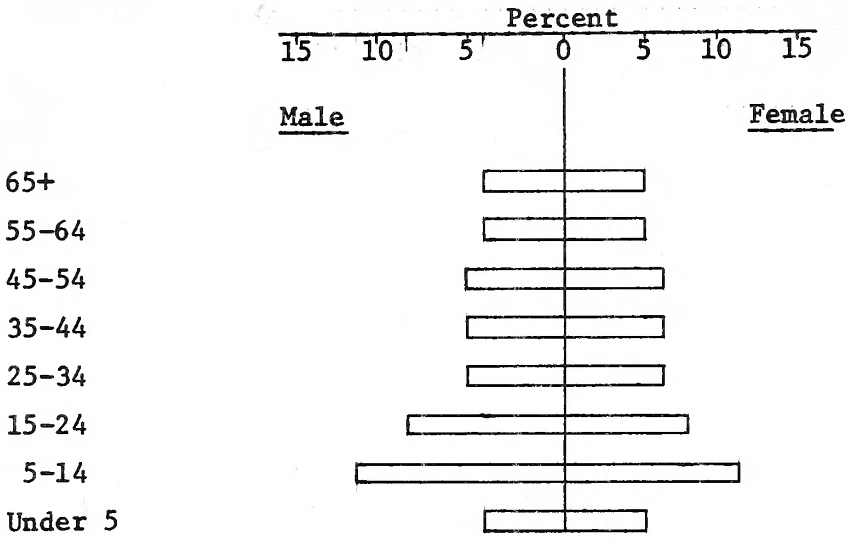
[1] U. S. Census of Population, 1970.

FIGURE 1
1970 HALIFAX COUNTY POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX[1]



As Table 2 indicates, the greatest degree of population growth in Halifax County in this century occurred in 1940, and most of this growth occurred in Roanoke Rapids Township. Only Roanoke Rapids Township has had steady population gains during this century, with minor gains in Conoconnara between 1940-1950, Enfield 1950-1960, Littleton 1960-1970, Roseneath 1940-1950, Scotland Neck 1950-1960, and Weldon 1940-1960. With its size and industry, Roanoke Rapids Township can be expected to continue to lead the way in population gains in the county. With 32 percent of the county's population in the 0-14 year age group, there is some potential for natural increase during the planning period.

Projected Population of Halifax County

The following table indicates a general summarized population growth trend for Halifax County. The projections are based on OBERS method which assumes that no major changes will occur in characteristics of past trend.

TABLE 6
FUTURE POPULATION OF HALIFAX COUNTY 1975-2000[2]
(Figures adjusted to include Littleton)

Year	Population	Percent Change
1980	53,533	-02%
1990	54,435	+02%
2000	53,090	-02%

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[1] U. S. Census, 1970.

[2] OBERS is an acronym for the Office of Business Economics and the Economics Research Service.

Although the above figures are general, they can provide some indication of Halifax County's population through the year 2000. They can also provide a mechanism for measuring the expected intensity of land use over this period of time.

Economy

In order to determine future goals and growth objectives for the county, it is necessary to understand the economic characteristics and trends which influence the county and the region. Indicators of economic strengths and weaknesses which include income, employment trends, labor supply, skill levels, retail sales, and types of employment can be examined to identify ways of strengthening the local economy.

Regional Influences

Economic indicators for the county can best be explored within a regional context since commuting some distance from dwelling places to places of work is common practice. While "region" may be defined in several ways, the boundaries for Region L established by Governor Robert Scott as one of the state's multi-county regions will be used since a good deal of information has been gathered for it.

Region L is made up of Edgecombe, Nash, Northampton, Wilson, and Halifax Counties, all of which have traditionally been agricultural. However, during the eight years prior to 1973, agricultural employment in the region dropped 37 percent while manufacturing employment had a 44 percent gain. Nevertheless, the region remains more oriented to agriculture than does most of the state. Median and per capita incomes remain substantially below state averages, with about 27 percent of all households in the region existing below the poverty level.

The following table shows a distribution of family income for Halifax County and for Region L as a whole.

TABLE 7
FAMILY INCOME - HALIFAX COUNTY AND REGION L - 1970[1]

Income $	Families in Region L	% of Region L Population	Families in Halifax County	% of Halifax County Population
Less than $1,000	2,858	01%	794	01%
$1,000-$1,999	5,343	02%	1,246	02%
$2,000-$2,999	5,115	02%	1,231	02%
$3,000-$3,999	5,118	02%	1,048	02%
$4,000-$4,999	5,226	02%	1,179	02%
$5,000-$5,999	5,299	02%	1,172	02%
$6,000-$6,999	4,664	02%	1,035	02%
$7,000-$7,999	4,228	02%	703	01%
$8,000-$8,999	3,879	02%	829	02%
$9,000-$9,999	3,437	01%	626	01%
$10,000-$11,999	5,773	02%	1,194	02%
$12,000-$14,999	4,467	02%	942	02%
$15,000-$24,999	3,402	01%	697	01%
$25,000-$49,000	802	less than 01%	146	less than 01%
$50,000 or more	180	less than 01%	27	less than 01%

Halifax County closely approximates the income distribution pattern established for the entire region, with 29.9 percent of all families in the county reporting incomes less than poverty level. In the region only Northampton County has more families below the poverty level--37.9 percent for the highest in the state. Wilson and Nash Counties have 22.9 and 23.6 percent respectively, for 39th and 38th positions in the state, while Edgecombe with 26.6 percent ranks 25th. Halifax ranks 12th in percentage of families living below the poverty level. Obviously, all of the counties in Region L have a high degree of poverty since more than one-fifth of the families in each county have incomes below the poverty level.

Employment Trends

Although agricultural employment in the region declined almost 27 percent in 1962-1970, the region is still more agriculturally oriented than the rest of the state. In 1970, 35.5 percent of employed persons in the state as a whole were engaged in manufacturing, 38.6 percent in white collar jobs, 13.2 percent in government, and 3.4 percent unemployed. In the region, 28.9 percent were in manufacturing, 34 percent white collar, 12.4 percent in government, and 5.3 percent unemployed. In Halifax County, 33.2 percent were in manufacturing, 31.1 percent white collar, 11.6 percent in government, and 5.1 percent were unemployed.[1]

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[1] U. S. Census, General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970.

From 1959 to 1969 the number of farms in the region declined from 14,780 to 7,261 or 50.9 percent while in the county, the decrease was 61.2 percent.[2] During a comparable period (1958-1967) land in urban use rose from 11,500 acres to 18,400 acres for a 6 percent increase in urban use; thus it appears that land in the county is becoming urbanized at a much slower rate than the rate at which farms are declining. A trend to greater mechanization makes larger farm holdings economically more feasible than smaller ones; however, the two chief crops of the region--tobacco and cotton--are still labor intensive. In spite of this, agriculture employment in the region from 1960-1970 declined by 80 percent.

The importance of agriculture to the region should not be minimized since it is still a significant factor in the economy. The industries of the area, the most significant of which are food and kindred products, tobacco manufacturing, textiles and apparel, and lumber and wood products, are closely related to agriculture.

Employment figures show the greatest gains in the region between 1960-1970 were in manufacturing with the second largest gains in trades and services. Government employment also made appreciable gains. It is important to note that while considerable gains in non-agricultural employment were made, they were insufficient to stem the out-migration of almost 17 percent of the region's population which was the second highest rate of out-migration of all North Carolina regions.

Halifax County Labor Force

The labor force of Halifax County is expanding and flexible due to the transition from a completely agricultural economy to a more diversified, balanced one. As agriculture has become increasingly mechanized and limits have been placed on the production of certain crops, workers have increasingly sought job opportunities in manufacturing.

The total civilian labor force in the county increased from 20,400 in 1970 to 21,310 in 1973 while agricultural workers decreased by 04% from 2,520 to 2,350 workers for the same time period. Nonagricultural employment rose from 16,570 to 18,060 for a 06% increase during that period.[3] This trend is consistent in the four other counties in Region L for the time period examined.

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[1] U. S. Census, General Social and Economic Characteristics, 1970.

[2] Ibid.

[3] North Carolina Labor Force Estimates, N. C. Employment Security Commission, November, 1974.

In 1970, the Halifax County labor force was composed of 16,747 males 16 years and over and 18,794 females in the same age category, according to the 1970 Census of Population. The ratio of males to females (1:1.12) is lower than the statewide figure of 1:1.08, which indicates a high percentage of females in the county. The percentage of males and females over age 16 is 54 percent which is considerably lower than the statewide figure of 62 percent.

Commuting Patterns

The labor force in the county is quite mobile with regard to commuting patterns which may indicate the need for additional jobs in the county or a desire to travel to adjoining areas for employment. Table 8 shows these commuting patterns for 1960-1970.

TABLE 8
COMMUTING PATTERNS FOR HALIFAX COUNTY, 1960-1970[1]

County	1960			1970		
	Went Out of County To Work	Came Into County To Work	Net Gain Or Loss	Went Out of County To Work	Came Into County To Work	Net Gain Or Loss
Beaufort	0	0	+ 0	--	7	+ 7
Bertie	12	18	+ 6	10	17	+ 7
Edgecombe	145	75	- 70	349	111	-238
Franklin	12	21	+ 9	9	0	- 9
Hertford	--	13	+ 13	41	12	- 29
Martin	29	44	+ 15	42	38	- 4
Nash	101	53	- 48	331	84	-247
Northampton	213	980	+767	277	922	+645
Pitt	0	0	0	7	23	+ 16
Vance	0	0	0	60	7	- 53
Wake	21	--	- 21	0	0	0
Warren	90	179	+ 89	93	289	+196
Wilson	8	--	- 8	44	12	- 32
Brunswick (Virginia)	8	98	+ 90	--	113	+111
Greensville (Virginia)	24	87	+ 63	19	57	+ 38
Mecklenburg (Virginia)	--	11	+ 11	4	--	- 4
Southampton (Virginia)	0	0	0	23	--	- 23
Sussex (Virginia)	0	0	0	12	--	- 12
Elsewhere	275	234	- 41	455	231	-224
TOTAL	938	1,813		1,776	1,923	
Live and Work in Halifax County	17,303	17,303		15,564	15,564	
Employed Residents	18,241	XXX		17,340	XXX	
Persons Working in Halifax County	XXX	19,116		XXX	17,487	
Net Commuting-Gain (+) or Loss (-)		+875			+147	

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[1] North Carolina Commuting Patterns, 1960 and 1970, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, March, 1974.

The net commuting gain into Halifax County in 1970 of 147 is 728 less than the 875 gain in 1960 while the number of employed residents in the county has decreased by 901 during the period. The total number of persons working in Halifax County has dimished by 1,629 persons during that decade.

Major increases in out-commuting have occurred from 1960-1970 to Edgecombe, Nash, and other unidentified work places. Franklin, Hertford, and Martin Counties which formerly provided net increases to the county have reversed trends so that they receive more workers from Halifax County than Halifax County receives from them. There is also an out-commuting net loss to Vance County which did not formerly attract Halifax County workers. Only Brunswick County of the nearby Virginia counties has contributed an increased number of workers to the Halifax labor force while more workers from Halifax commute to the Virginia counties of Greensville, Mecklenburg, Southampton, and Sussex than there are in-commuters from those counties. Even though nearby Brunswick County, Virginia sends more workers to Halifax than commute to it from Halifax, that number had diminished in 1970 from the 1960 total as had the number from Northampton County. There were insignificant net gains from Beaufort and Bertie Counties, with the only sizeable gain coming from Warren County. The total number of persons both living and working in Halifax County has also decreased.

Not only has the labor force for the county decreased during the decade, but the percent of the county labor force working outside the county has increased from 5 to 10 percent while the in-migration of workers from elsewhere has only increased by 110 actual workers or 6 percent. This indicates the need for more and perhaps different job opportunities in the county.

Type of Employment

Table 9 shows the types of employment in which Halifax County workers were engaged in 1960 and 1970 and the percent of changes during that decade. These figures, compiled by the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, use a labor force figure which varies slightly from that of the North Carolina Employment Security Commission.

TABLE 9

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT DISTRIBUTION IN HALIFAX COUNTY, REGION L, AND THE STATE 1960-1970[1]

		Distribution in percent of Total 1970					Percentage change 1960-1970					
	Total Employ. 1970	Agri. Forest Fishing Mining	Manuf.	Trade	Service	Other	Total Employ.	Agri. Forest Fishing Mining	Manuf.	Trade	Service	Other
Halifax County	17,779	10.7	32.9	19.0	25.7	11.7	- 4.1	-60.4	17.4	10.2	14.8	23.3
Region L	87,704	11.5	28.5	18.6	28.2	13.2	4.3	-55.8	44.0	17.3	26.4	11.0
State of North Carolina	1,998,805	5.4	35.2	17.4	29.1	12.9	24.5	-48.7	38.3	35.1	43.5	15.7

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[1] North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service.

These figures show that both Halifax County and the rest of Region L have experienced a considerable decline in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and mining category with the county's percentage the greater of the two. Decline in that category for both the county and the region have exceeded that of the state as a whole. The region has had a greater gain in manufacturing, trade, and service activities than the county itself, although the county has had upward turns in these categories. The region exceeds the percentage increases experienced by the state in manufacturing but falls below the state in trade, service, and other activities.

From these statistics it can be concluded that the county is experiencing a greater decline in agricultural employment than are the region and the state but is falling far below both in manufacturing, trade, and service increases. Only in the last or "other" category does the county lead the region and the state.

Table 10 gives wages by type of employment for Halifax County and for the state as a whole.

TABLE 10
MEDIAN EARNINGS FOR SELECTED OCCUPATION GROUPS
BY SEX IN HALIFAX COUNTY AND THE STATE 1970[1]

Occupation Groups, Male	Halifax County	North Carolina
All males in county, 16 years old and over with earnings	$4,759	$5,627
Professional and kindred	7,759	8,831
Craftsmen, foremen, and kindred	5,992	6,128
Operatives, including transport	4,617	4,927
Laborers, except farm	3,140	3,406
Farmers and farm managers	2,839	3,110
Farm laborers	1,595	2,085*
All females in county, 16 years old and over with earnings	2,884	3,130
Clerical and kindred	3,756	3,740
Operatives, including transport	3,643	3,220

*from 76 reporting units

The table shows that Halifax County salaries for males in all categories lag behind state averages as does the average for all county female workers. Female workers in the county average slightly higher than female workers statewide in the two categories examined. Women's salaries lag behind men's salaries in Halifax County by an average of

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[1] U. S. Census, 1970, General Social and Economic Characteristics.

$1,875 or 39 percent while in the one category for which figures are given for both sexes--operatives, including transport--males exceed females by $643 or 14 percent. Since females make up about 31 percent of Halifax County's labor force, the impact of their lower salaries is considerable.

Agriculture

Halifax County is following the statewide trend away from agriculture. From 1959-1969, the number of farms in the county declined by 61.2 percent, yet in 1969 138,364 acres of the county were still in farmland. Table 11 presents some comparisons of 1964 and 1969 agriculture figures for Halifax County and the state.

TABLE 11

AGRICULTURE TRENDS - HALIFAX COUNTY[1]

	Halifax County			North Carolina		
	1964	1969	% Change	1964	1969	% Change
Acres in farms	275,795	138,364	-49.8	14,381,500	12,733,751	-11.5
Average size of farms (acres)	149.4	218.3	+46.1	97.0	106.6	+ 9.9
Acres of harvested cropland	103,061	94,918	- 7.9	3,985,950	3,472,302	-12.9
Market value of agric. products	$21,543,101	$20,154,974	- 6.4	$1,067,550,000	$1,195,068,745	+11.9
Average market value of agric. products per farm	$ 11,670	$ 16,214	+38.9	$ 7,203	$ 10,010	+39.0

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[1] U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1964, 1969.

These figures indicate that the county's farmland is diminishing much faster than it is statewide, but the growth in the average size of farms in the county is much greater than for the entire state. In both the county and the state as a whole the acres of cropland harvested has dropped. In the county, market value of agricultural products declined while it rose for the state, but the county managed to almost match the state figure for the average market value of agricultural products per farm. It appears that the movement in the county toward large farms has not resulted in more acres of harvested cropland nor the total increased market value of agricultural products; however, the county's farmers have kept pace with the state in the percentage change of the average market value per farm for their products and their per farm average far exceeds the statewide average. It appears that improved farming techniques and better farm management have allowed the county's farmers to maintain this position.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing in Halifax County showed small increases during the 1963-1967 period as shown by the following table.

TABLE 12
MANUFACTURING STATISTICS - HALIFAX COUNTY 1963 and 1967[1]

	1963	1967
Establishments		
Total Number	91	102
Establishments with 20 employees or more	25	27
All Employees		
Total number	5,744	5,900
Payroll ($1,000)	23,216	30,300
Production Workers		
Total Number	5,000	5,000
Man Hours (1,000)	10,356	10,600
Wages ($1,000)	18,792	23,400
Value Added by Manufacture ($1,000)	42,818	60,000
Capital Expenditures ($1,000)	2,650	3,000

A list of manufacturers in Halifax County furnished by the industrial development office shows that there were 36 manufacturing establishments in the county by August, 1975 employing 6,371 workers, 3,912 of whom were male and 2,459 female.

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[1] U. S. Census of Manufacturing, 1963 and 1967.

Retail Trade

Retail trade remained stable during the 1963-1967 period with a 6½ percent growth in the number of establishments. Lumber, building material, hardward, and farm equipment establishments experienced greater decline than any other type of establishment.

TABLE 13
RETAIL TRADE IN HALIFAX COUNTY, 1963 and 1967

	1963	1967
Total number of retail trade establishments	604	646
Total sales of all establishments ($1,000)	57,944	77,641
Lumber, building material, hardward, farm equipment establishments	26	18
General Merchandise	43	43
Food stores	187	206
Automotive dealers	38	38
Gasoline stations	78	77
Apparel and accessories	49	54
Furniture and kindred	29	28
Eating, drinking	52	59
Drug	14	16
Other	66	88

Halifax County's gross retail sales in 1970 are in the $2,000 - $2,500 per capita category which is a middle level in the state. The county ranks in the highest category in per capita surplus retail sales[1] which is probably attributable to the emergence of Roanoke Rapids as a major trade center for the surrounding rural population. Retail sales per capita in Halifax County are $871 compared to $1,086 in urbanized Mecklenburg or $768 in Wake or $937 in Nash, giving the county the highest surplus as a percent of total gross retail sales of any county in the state at 39.3 percent.[2] Clearly, the county is doing well on a per capita basis, but it must draw on a widely dispersed regional population for its position.

Wholesale Trade

Wholesale trade focuses more strongly on urban areas than retail trade does; therefore, rural counties like Halifax do not rank well in this category. The county ranked in the $10,000 - $50,000 category in 1967, which is next to the lowest category listed for wholesale trade.[1] In 1967, there were 78 wholesale establishments in the county employing 614 persons which represented a 5 percent increase in the number of establishments and a 15 percent increase in employment since 1958. That was the same average increase experienced by all counties comprising Region L while the 15 percent increase in employment in wholesaling in the region far excels the -24.2 for the 1958-1967 period.[2] During the same period, the state as a whole had an increase of 22.1 percent in the number of wholesale establishments and a 40.7 percent increase in wholesaling employment;[3] thus, the county does not compare well with the state as a whole in increased number of establishments nor increased employment in wholesaling. Halifax County's geographical location does not especially favor growth in this category.

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[1] James W. Clay, et. al., North Carolina Atlas, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1975, pp 214-216.

[2] Clay, p. 218

Community Facilities

An inventory and analysis of existing community facilities in Halifax County are useful parts of the county's on-going planning program since the quality of services to Halifax County citizens can be measured to a degree by the level and quality of services provided. A comprehensive development plan should point out facility needs as well as land use needs. In order for the county to provide systematically for community facilities which usually involve large outlays of tax monies, the information and recommendations in this report may be used in conjunction with a capital improvements program to determine the best use of limited financial resources and timing of expenditures.

Administrative Services

Organization and Personnel

Halifax County has the commissioner-manager form of government with a board of commissioners consisting of six members who serve for four years. There are 167 full-time county employees, including 43 health and 39 mental health staff members.

County Buildings and Grounds

The Halifax County Courthouse is located on King Street in the Town of Halifax, which is the county seat. Other buildings owned by the county include the health services building, the social services building, the agriculture building, the King Street office building, and the SCS-ASCS office building. The county also owns the former county home property three miles from Halifax consisting of of about 200 acres of land and buildings into which there are plans to move the central social services facilities.

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[1] Clay, p. 220.

[2] Paul S. Stone, The North Carolina Economy, North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, Raleigh, 1974.

[3] Stone, p. 75.

At the present time, construction is underway on the new Halifax Technical Institute near Weldon to replace the facility now in use on Route 301. The vacated facility will allow the county to move some other service into that location, lessening congestion in the courthouse vicinity.

Halifax County Hospital in Roanoke Rapids is a 163 bed hospital owned by all Halifax County townships except Palmyra, Roseneath, and Conaconnara, and the Town of Scotland Neck. There is also a new mental health center which shares the campus of the county hospital. Long-range plans include the possibility of moving the health department from Halifax to the county hospital site. Palmyra, Roseneath, Conaconnara, and Scotland Neck support a 25 bed hospital in Scotland Neck.

The present Halifax Courthouse complex in the Town of Halifax is crowded and lacks adequate parking facilities. By moving many of the facilities from the area and dispersing them to other areas of the county, adequate parking for the courthouse and related activities could be provided and congestion reduced. This is viewed as a long-range possibility by some county officials.

Finance

The 1974-1975 budget consisting of all county funds was $4,105,626 which, with revenue sharing added, was $6,105,095. In 1975-1976, the figures rose to $4,634,356 and $6,429,236 respectively. For the same period, total assessments were $346,417,195 (based on a 40 percent ratio) and following reevaluation, $516,494,907 (based on 100 percent ratio). The tax rate which was 62/100 in 1974-1975 was 48/100 in 1975-1976.

The county has a total of $490,000 in bonds outstanding, consisting of a 1958 $3,000,000 issue for schools of which $450,000 is outstanding and $40,000 outstanding for landfill purchase.

Public Safety

Law Enforcement

There are 25 employees in the sheriff's department with an additional 5 persons employed as jailers. All employees are trained and certified for the jobs which they perform.

Office space is limited for personnel, but the facilities for inmates are considered to be of adequate size. The jail was built in 1905 and has a capacity of 58 inmates. Equipment is modern for the most part and considered to be adequate.

Fire Protection and Prevention

There are two fire districts in the county manned by volunteers for which special taxes are levied, and the county helps to support municipal fire departments for county areas beyond town limits. Equipment is considered to be adequate.

Rescue Squad

Rescue squad units staffed by volunteers are located in Scotland Neck, Enfield and Roanoke Rapids. All are partially supported from county funds. Equipment is good, and a high level of service is given. The rescue squad supplies ambulance service to county citizens as well as providing general rescue activities.

Public Works

Water Systems

Roanoke Rapids is served by a sanitary district with water drawn from the Roanoke River, and service is available outside the city limits. The Town of Weldon also utilizes the Roanoke River for its water supply, with no service to unincorporated South Weldon at the present time. Enfield utilizes Fishing Creek for its water needs, but the other towns in the county--Halifax, Scotland Neck, Littleton, and Hobgood use wells as water sources.

The Town of Halifax has difficulty in obtaining sufficient supplies from existing wells and is unable to extend service beyond the town limits to a populated area immediately adjacent to the town which has unsatisfactory individual water supplies. Similarly, South Weldon is without a needed distribution system.

Sanitary Sewerage System

Sanitary sewerage service in Roanoke Rapids is provided by the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District. Since much of the waste treated is of an industrial nature, a high level of treatment is required. A 201 wastewater facilities plan is in progress which will determine the most efficient and effective ways of treating waste which, for study purposes, includes not only Roanoke Rapids, but Weldon, Gaston, Garysburg, and Halifax. It is likely that, due to the geographical location of Halifax and the somewhat acute need for improved facilities, the town's portion of the 201 study will be extricated from the larger study for more immediate attention. A number of possibilities exist for combining treatment facilities for Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, Gaston, and Garysburg with Gaston-Roanoke Rapids together and Garysburg-Weldon together or all four sharing facilities in a regional system.

Littleton and Scotland Neck are both relatively isolated from other communities and will probably continue to treat their own wastes independently. Littleton needs to improve treatment and extend service beyond the town to populated areas. Scotland Neck's facilities are adequate for present and expected needs through 1990.

Enfield has a modern sewage treatment plant which is, however, producing effluent of insufficient quality. In addition, Enfield needs to extend service to a large number of nearby homes which are without municipal service.

Hobgood has no municipal service at the present time, and costs are prohibitive for the installation of a facility to serve so few residents unless health problems occur.

Solid Waste

The county owns a 25 acre landfill off Route 125 which has been in use for three years. The county provides pickup 2 to 3 times a week of 160 containers located throughout the county. Private individuals may use the landfill without fee.

Utilities

Electricity for residential, commercial, and industrial users is provided by Virginia Electric Power Company throughout much of the county and by Carolina Power and Light Company in the western section. Supplies are adequate for future projected needs. Telephone service is supplied by Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company. Natural gas is available in portions of the U. S. Route 301 corridor from North Carolina Natural Gas Corporation.

Health Care

A wide range of health services is provided from the main health facility in Halifax and from satellite facilities in Enfield and Scotland Neck. Health services may be moved to the former county home site in order to relieve space needs. Mental health care is provided at a new mental health center at the hospital site in Roanoke Rapids by doctors from Duke University Medical School in Durham.

A modern 163 bed county hospital is located in Roanoke Rapids with a 25 bed hospital located in Scotland Neck.

At the present time there are 24 doctors practicing in the county as general practitioners or specialists, and there are 10 dentists.

Welfare

Welfare services are provided for county residents from central facilities in Halifax, and food stamps are distributed from Roanoke Rapids, Hollister, and Enfield as well. In July, 1975, 4,517 families were receiving aid of some type while in February, 1976, the number had increased to 4,629. In July, 1975 13,183 persons in the county received food stamps, and in February, 1976, 13,636 received food stamps. Sixty-nine people are employed by the welfare department.

Library

There are municipal library facilities in Littleton, Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, Enfield, and Scotland Neck and a county library in the Town of Halifax located in the former Halifax Elementary School. The county library operates two bookmobiles which take books to the various municipal libraries as well as serve individuals throughout the county. There are 3 full-time county library employees and 3 part-time employees. The county library houses about 40,000 books.

Recreation

No organized county recreation program exists for Halifax County residents, and the county owns no recreation sites. The county has contributed to special summer recreation programs in the schools.

The following activities are thought to have high potential in Halifax County: vacation cabins, cottages, and homesites (primarily on Lake Gaston and Roanoke Rapids Lake), camping grounds, fishing, hunting, historic areas, and golf course (in the Weldon-Roanoke Rapids area).

Activities with medium potential in the county are: picnicking, field sports, natural and scenic areas, shooting preserves, vacation farms, and water sports,[1]

The state has acquired approximately 2,000 acres of land in the county for Medoc Mountain State Park which will probably be developed for such facilities as camping, bridle paths, hiking, and nature trails. This facility will provide many additional outdoor recreation opportunities to Halifax County residents.

Public Schools

There are three school administrative units in Halifax County: Roanoke Rapids serving 3,100 students in 1973-1974; Weldon, serving 1,863 in 1973-1974; and Halifax County, serving 8,239 students in 1973-1974. A North Carolina Department of Public Instruction survey for the Weldon Schools in 1973-1974 recommended that new facilities be planned for eventual merger with other local systems. Due to projected population decline, such a proposal may be an appropriate direction for the various school systems to take.

Even if school populations decline and mergers take place, some replacement of facilities will be essential. Facilities in the two districts serving Halifax County pupils--Weldon and Halifax County--are given with the year built:

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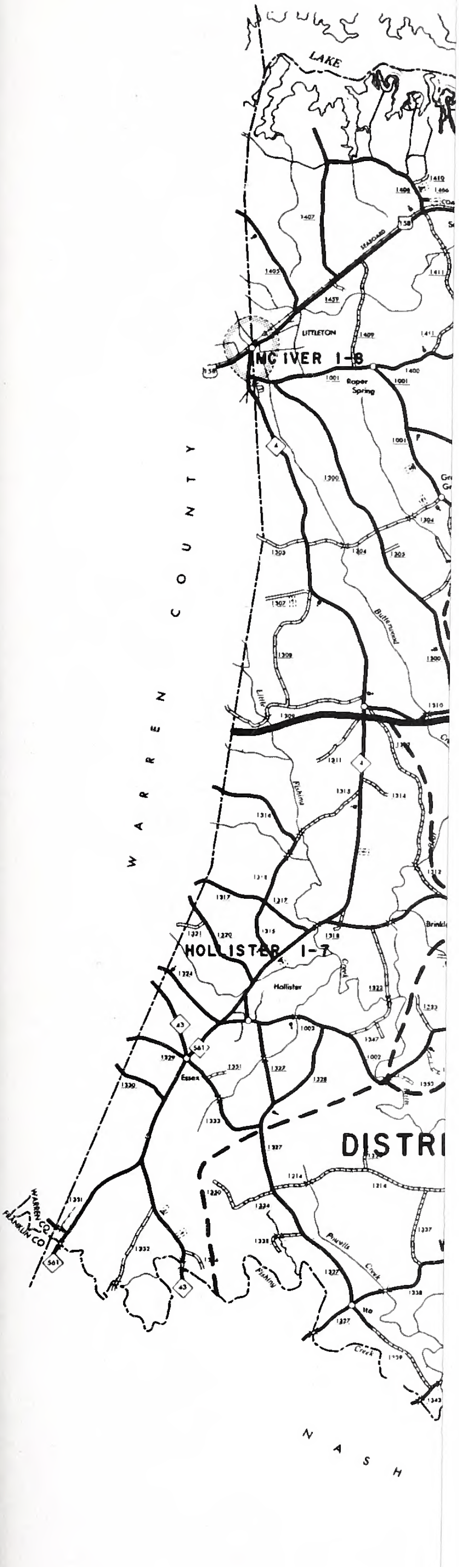
[1] The Potential for Outdoor Recreation in Halifax County, North Carolina, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Halifax, 1973.


LAKE
1410
1408
1406
158
1407
SEABOARD
1405
1411
1459
LITTLETON
1409
MC IVER 1-8
158
1001
Roper Spring
1400
4
1300
1304
1303
1305
1307
Butterwood
1309
Little
1310
1311
4
Fishing
1313
1314
1316
1318
1317
1312
1321
1320
1315
1318
Brinkle
HOLLISTER 1-7
1324
Hollister
Creek
1322
43
561
1329
Essex
1003
1347
1002
1331
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1333
1352
DISTRI
1327
1214
1214
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WARREN CO.
FRANKLIN CO.
561
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43
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1334
1335
Powells
Creek
Fishing
1327
1337
1338
Ita
1327
Creek
1339
1343
WARREN COUNTY
NASH

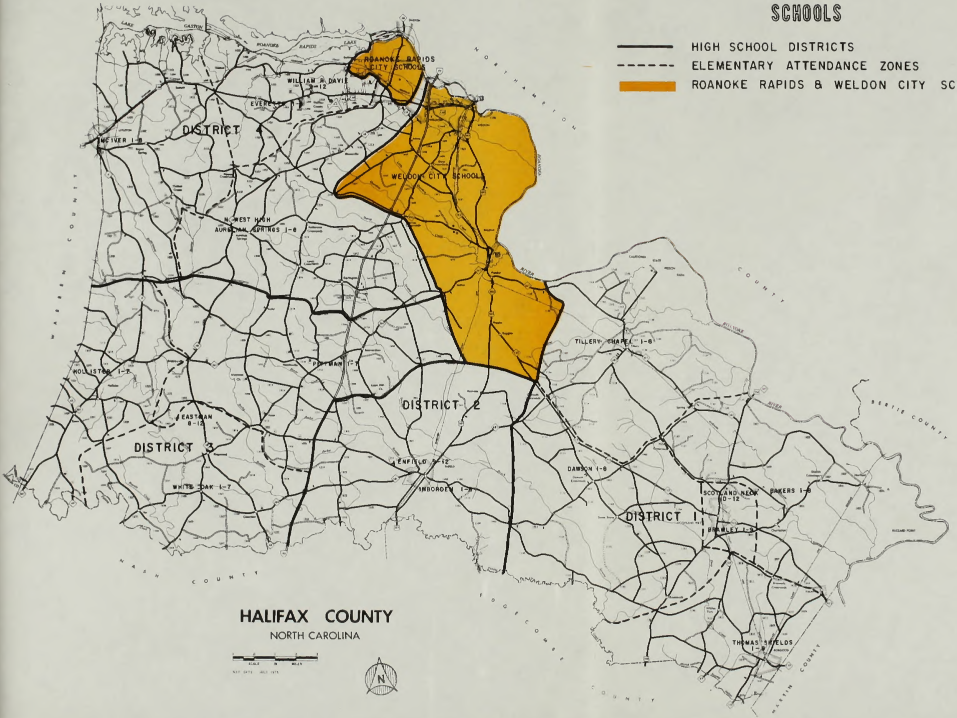
MAP 6

SCHOOLS

——— HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- - - - - ELEMENTARY ATTENDANCE ZONES

▬ ROANOKE RAPIDS & WELDON CITY SCHOOLS



Halifax County

Bakers - 1959
Dawson - 1938
Everetts - 1958
Hollister - 1960
Inborden - 1948
Pittman - 1959
Thomas Shields - 1957
Tillery Chapel - 1932
Aurelian Springs - 1922
Brawley - 1926
Eastman - 1947
Enfield - 1948
Inborden High - 1951
McIver - 1925
Scotland Neck - 1903
William R. Davie - 1940

Weldon City

Andrew Jackson - 1959
Weldon Elementary - 1924
Weldon High School - 1963

Transportation

In 1971, a preliminary thoroughfare plan was prepared by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (then called the State Highway Commission) for Halifax County. The purpose of such a plan is to assure that the road system will be adequate to serve future needs.

The major changes in traffic volumes from 1963-1969 were on Interstate 95, US 301, and US 158. When Interstate 95 was opened, US 301 experienced a significant decrease and US 158 experienced a significant increase in volume.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation classifies rural roads into four major systems as follows:

> Rural Principal Arterial System: The rural principal arterial system consists of a connected network of continuous routes which serve corridor movements having trip lengths and travel density characteristics indicative of substantial statewide or interstate travel. The principal arterial system should serve all urban areas of over 50,000 population and a large majority of those with a population greater than 5,000. The interstate system constitutes a significant portion of the principal arterial system.
>
> Rural Minor Arterial System: The minor arterial system in conjunction with the principal arterial system forms a network which link cities, larger towns, and other major traffic generators such as large resorts. The minor thoroughfare system generally serves interstate and intercounty travel and serves travel corridors with trip lengths and travel densities somewhat less than the principal arterial system.

Rural Collector Road System: The rural collector routes generally serve travel of primarily intracounty rather than statewide importance and constitute those routes on which predominant travel distances are shorter than on the arterial routes. This system is subclassified into major collector roads and minor collector roads.

Major Collector Roads: These routes (1) provide service to the larger towns not directly served by the higher systems and to other traffic generators of equivalent intracounty importance, such as consolidated schools, shopping points, county parks, important mining and agricultural areas, etc; (2) link these places with nearby larger towns or cities, or with routes of higher classification; and (3) serve the more important intracounty travel corridors.

Minor Collector Roads: These routes (1) collect traffic from local roads and bring all developed areas within a reasonable distance of a collector road; (2) provide service to the remaining smaller communities; and (3) link the locally important traffic generators with their rural hinterland.

Rural Local Road System: The local roads comprise all roads not on one of the higher systems.

The major changes proposed by the Department of Transportation for Halifax County follow:

Principal Arterials:

There are two principal arterial routes, Interstate 95 and US 158, that will serve primarily interstate and statewide travel. Interstate 95 should have adequate capacity for the 20 year design period; however, US 158 will need to be upgraded to four travel lanes. A relocation of a portion of US 158 west of SR 1413 is recommended due to the proximity of existing US 158 to the railroad west of the secondary road.

Minor Arterials

The minor arterials in conjunction with the principal arterial system form a network which link the cities and larger towns of the region. The minor arterial routes that are included in the plan are as follows:

1. US 258. A combination US 258 and NC 125 bypass around the west side of Scotland Neck is recommended. It is anticipated that US 258 will require improvement to four travel lanes during the planning period.

2. US 301

3. NC 97

4. NC 125 east of US 301. A bypass is proposed around both Scotland Neck and Hobgood.

5. NC 561 west of Interstate 95.

Collector Road System

The rural collector routes will serve primarily intracounty travel. The major collector roads will supplement the principal arterial and minor arterial system by providing an interconnecting network between smaller population centers and connecting the smaller population centers to the arterial routes. The minor collector roads will collect traffic from the local roads and carry it to the higher system roads. Proposed major and minor collector roads in Halifax County are as follows:

Major Collector Roads

1. Existing US 158 between the Warren County line and the proposed US 158 relocation.

2. NC 4

3. NC 43 between NC 561 and the Nash County line

4. NC 43 between NC 561 and the Warren County line. A minor relocation of a short portion of this section of NC 43 is proposed to improve the intersection of NC 43, NC 561, SR 1329, and SR 1333.

5. NC 48

6. NC 122

7. NC 125 between Halifax and Roanoke Rapids

8. NC 481 between NC 48 and Enfield

9. NC 481 between US 301 and NC 561

10. NC 561 between I-95 and Halifax

11. NC 561 between Halifax and US 258

12. NC 903. It is proposed that NC 903 be relocated near Scotland Neck so as to connect directly to 12th Street. This relocation would provide a more direct crosstown movement and reduce some congestion on Main Street.

13. SR 1001 - SR 1206 between Enfield and NC 561

14. SR 1002 between NC 481 and NC 48

15. SR 1003 between Enfield and NC 125

16. SR 1400 between US 158 and Roanoke Rapids

17. SR 1423

18. Main Street in Scotland Neck

19. Existing NC 125 between the proposed NC 125 bypass and Main Street in Scotland Neck

20. Glenview Road - Church Street - Franklin Street in Enfield

21. Commerce Street in Hobgood

Minor Collector Roads

1. SR 1001 between SR 1206 and NC 4 in Littleton

2. SR 1002 between NC 561 and NC 48. A relocation of a portion of SR 1002 between SR 1323 and SR 1322 is proposed to provide a more direct movement.

3. SR 1003 between NC 125 and NC 561

4. SR 1100

5. SR 1107

6. SR 1117

7. SR 1141. An extension of SR 1141 across the Roanoke River to SR 1131 in Northampton County is recommended to provide a more direct access between Caledonia State Prison Farm from areas east of the river.

8. SR 1210

9. SR 1213 - SR 1216. It is recommended that SR 1213 be extended to SR 1216 to enable SR 1213 and SR 1216 to better function as a minor collector.

10. SR 1214 between SR 1002 and SR 1343

11. SR 1222

12. SR 1317

13. SR 1326

14. SR 1327

15. SR 1329

16. SR 1343 between SR 1214 and SR 1338

17. SR 1338

18. SR 1400 between SR 1001 and US 158

19. SR 1404 - SR 1405. It is proposed that SR 1404 be extended to SR 1405 and a connector be constructed between SR 1405 and SR 1352 in Warren County. This facility would serve as a loop around the east and north sides of Littleton.

20. SR 1406

21. SR 1434. Some realignment of SR 1434 will be required in the vicinity of the NC 48-SR 1423 intersection.

22. SR 1600

23. SR 1615

24. SR 1624

25. SR 1665

26. SR 1804

27. SR 1820

28. Brunette Avenue in Enfield

29. Loop Thoroughfare around Enfield[1]

In addition to the highway network, the county is transversed by a main north-south corridor of the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad. Roanoke Rapids has an airport which handles small business and private aircraft and the Rocky Mount-Wilson Airport has commercial service from one airline. The primary commercial service is at the Raleigh-Durham airport approximately eighty miles from the county by automobile.

Citizen Attitudes

Not only is it important to determine the level of service now offered to county residents and a desired level based on generally accepted criteria, but it is equally important to know how local citizens view the service they have and what they would be willing to pay for. A survey completed in November, 1975 by the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service shows what 72 Halifax County residents selected at random thought about service available to them.

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[1] Thoroughfare Plan, Halifax County, North Carolina, North Carolina State Highway Commission, Raleigh, 1971.

COMMUNITY SERVICES	HALIFAX N=72	
HEALTH	Poor	Good+
Availability of medical facilities	29	25
Availability of family doctors	37	26
Availability of dentists	30	31
Availability of mental-health services	32	22
Availability of alcohol & drug rehabilitation services	37	15
Overall quality of medical services & facilities	27	30
CULTURE		
Availability of libraries	14	41
Quality of libraries	14	32
Availability of cultural opportunities (crafts, music, drama)	49	11
Quality of cultural opportunities	48	14
EDUCATION		
Quality of elementary & secondary education	25	34
Availability of public kindergarten programs	25	43
Availability of special education programs	42	21
JOBS		
Availability of job training	39	24
Quality of job opportunities	48	9
HOUSING		
Availability of low income housing	54	16
Availability of middle income housing	28	15
Availability of rental apartments	51	14
SOCIAL SERVICES		
Quality of child-welfare services		
Availability of assistance for aged and disabled	14	30
Availability of food stamp program	14	62
Availability of child-care centers	58	17
LAW ENFORCEMENT		
Quality of county and city law enforcement	12	46
Control of crime and juvenile delinquency	35	23
Quality of highway patrol	2	70
RECREATION		
Availability of public parks and playgrounds	51	24
Quality of public parks and playgrounds	43	25
Availability of state parks	67	13
Quality of state parks	46	25
Overall quality of recreational facilities	44	27
TRANSPORTATION		
Condition of streets and roads	8	50
Condition of highways	3	69
Availability of public transportation	59	13

COMMUNITY SERVICES	HALIFAX N=72 Poor	HALIFAX N=72 Good+
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
Contribution of small business to local economy	15	32
Contribution of industry to local economy	22	42
Contribution of agriculture to local economy	2	53
Contribution of forestry to local economy	6	52
Contribution of tourism to local economy	40	18
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION		
Effectiveness of air pollution controls	46	14
Effectiveness of water pollution controls	38	22
Effectiveness of land-use planning	25	18
Effectiveness of land-use controls (zoning, building, and health codes, etc.)	16	25
Efforts to protect the natural environment	21	23
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT		
Opportunity of citizen participation in community decisions	32	21
Opportunity for membership in community organizations	20	32
Community spirit and pride	17	40[1]

When the same respondents were asked where more state funds should be spent, the emphasis was somewhat different from that of the first questionnaire. Since many county government functions are directly linked with state government functions, attitudes of the respondents toward allocation of county resources can be determined.

CURRENT STATE EXPENDITURE AREAS	HALIFAX N=72
HEALTH	
County health departments	27
Rural health-care facilities	37
Physical health services & programs	25
Mental health services & institutions	51
Vocational training for retarded & handicapped	62
Alcohol and drug rehabilitation	44
CULTURE	
Support for libraries	25
Preservation of historical sites and museums	15
Support for arts, crafts, drama & music	17
EDUCATION	
Public elementary & secondary schools	39
Community colleges & technical institutes	45

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[1] James A. Christensen, North Carolina Today and Tomorrow, vol. 4, North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, 1975.

CURRENT STATE EXPENDITURE AREAS	HALIFAX N=72
State supported colleges & universities	38
Schools for exceptional children, problem and bright children	48
Occupational education	36
Public kindergarten program	24
SOCIAL SERVICES	
Child-welfare services	25
Food stamp program	20
Services for aged and disabled	63
Aid to families with dependent children	26
Medicaid	38
Job training for school dropouts	35
LAW ENFORCEMENT	
Crime rehabilitation and control	41
Prison facilities and guards	35
Highway patrol	26
Probation and parole officers	17
Judicial court systems	21
Legal counsel for poor persons	42
RECREATION	
Purchasing land for state parks	15
Development & maintenance of state recreational areas	25
Preserving & protecting wildlife areas, fisheries and state forests	38
TRANSPORTATION	
Construction & maintenance of state highways	32
Development & maintenance of state secondary roads	39
Development of airports	19
Development of state harbors	25
Development of mass transportation	30
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
Promotion of industry	58
Industrial research	40
Promotion of tourism	23
Promotion of agriculture	45
Agriculture research	32
Agricultural Extension Service	23
Consumer protection	40
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	
Water pollution control	40
Air pollution control	38
Erosion & sedimentation control	32

CURRENT STATE EXPENDITURE AREAS	HALIFAX N=72
Planning for use of state natural & environmental resources	32
Land-use planning & controls	25[1]

Land Use

Existing Land Use

Halifax County is an area of approximately 460,229 acres. Of this area, 271,440 acres or almost 59 percent of the county was devoted to agriculture in 1967. 133,365 acres were in pasture, and 269,195 were in forest. Urban uses consumed 18,400 acres while federal land consisted of only 50 acres. Total water area was 5,364 acres.[1]

Much of the land outside the municipalities is used for residential purposes and sparsely scattered commercial uses in addition to agricultural use. There are few manufacturing concerns beyond the municipal limits, and there are small commercial enterprises at crossroads. Residences are scattered along roads throughout the county in rural settings. About 96 percent of the total area of the county is considered not urban.

A significant land use change which has occurred since the development of the lakes on the Roanoke River along the northern boundary of the county has been lake front residential development. This development has been, in general, of high quality, encouraged by the use of zoning and restrictive covenants.

Land Use Problems

Land use problems often arise from the tendency of commercial establishments to locate along transportation corridors with relatively shallow lots. This problem exists particularly in the Roanoke Rapids-Rosemary-Weldon areas where growth is taking place, and it existed along US 301 in the past to a greater extent than it does today. As such strip development occurs, vehicles entering and exiting the highway to use these establishments create congestion problems which could be avoided through zoning which would encourage development in more compact clusters.

The major land use problem in Halifax County is the high percentage of substandard houses. There are many complex causes or contributors to substandard houses. Some of them pertain to land use incompatability such as location near a busy road, a railroad,

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[1] James A. Christensen, North Carolina Today and Tomorrow, vol. 4., North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, 1975

[2] Land Use, North Carolina Extension Service, Raleigh, 1975, p. 7.

[illegible]

CURRENT STATE [illegible]

Planning for use of [illegible]
resources
Land-use planning [illegible]

Land Use

Existing [illegible]

[illegible] this area [illegible] were [illegible] consist[illegible]

[illegible] tial [illegible] agricu[illegible] municip[illegible] roads [illegible] is [illegible]

[illegible] velopm[illegible] dev[illegible] use [illegible]

Land [illegible]

[illegible] tively [illegible] Rapid [illegible] extens[illegible] the [illegible] which [illegible] ment is [illegible]

The major land use planning [illegible] concept of [illegible] contribut[illegible] use [illegible]

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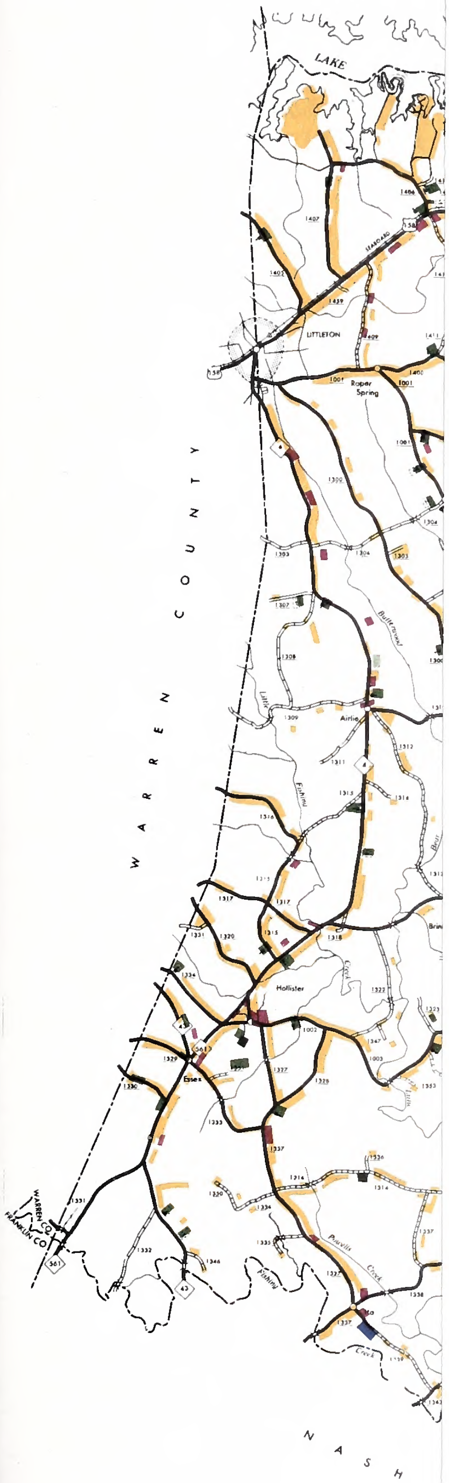
[1] James A. [illegible] North Carolina Agricultural [illegible]

[2] Land Use, North Carolina [illegible]


LAKE
WARREN COUNTY
LITTLETON
SEABOARD
158
Roper Spring
1001
1400
1407
1405
1406
1439
1409
1300
1303
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Airlie
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Hollister
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1002
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1003
1353
43
561
1329
Essex
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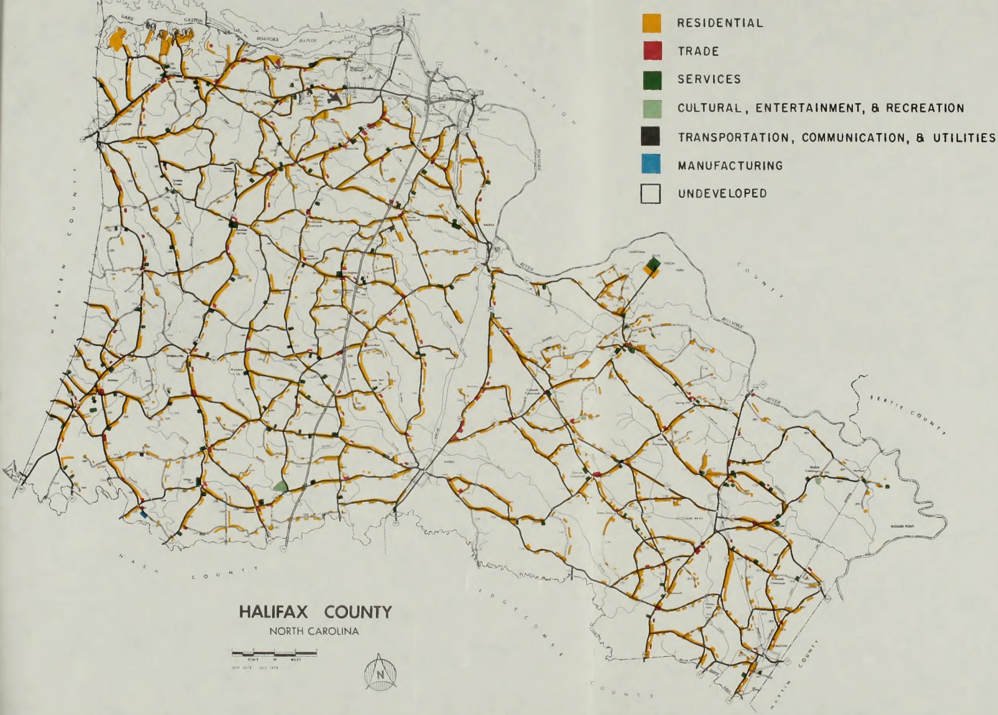
1328
1333
1337
1214
1314
1326
1330
1336
1335
1332
1346
Powells Creek
Fishing
Little Fishing
Butterwood
Bear
Creek
1338
1339
1343
Ita
WARREN CO.
FRANKLIN CO.
NASH

MAP 7

EXISTING LAND USE



or an industry, but often in Halifax County the major contributor is poverty. Poverty often results in the inability to maintain a home properly, and in Halifax County, the movement of people out of the county to places where job choices are greater has left a number of dilapidated, abandoned houses and outbuildings on the landscape. The absence of public facilities such as paved roads, water, and sewer also contribute to substandard conditions.

Future Land Requirements

With a population density of 75 persons per square mile, Halifax County has a sufficient amount of land for the foreseeable future. Where growth should be encouraged, where discouraged, and what the timing of various developments and service delivery should be are more pertinent issues for the county. The development plan will address these issues and will propose phasing to accomplish coordinated development.

Housing

In the autumn of 1975, the Division of Community Assistance conducted a field survey of housing conditions throughout Halifax County with the exception of Roanoke Rapids and South Belmont. The data were collected by township and will be presented by township units in order to provide a basis for comparison and problem identification on a sub-county level. Housing conditions were evaluated by exterior appearance of the structure using the following criteria:

standard: no visible defects or slight defects normally correctable by regular maintenance procedures.

deteriorating: one or more defects which require more than normal maintenance such as a sagging porch.

dilapidated: severe structural defects which render the dwelling uneconomically repairable and which make the dwelling unsafe or inadequate as shelter.

Brinkleyville Township

Occupied Units: 997
    Standard - 507 (51%)
    Deteriorating - 273 (27%)
    Dilapidated - 217 (22%)
Vacant units: 57
    Standard - 9
    Deteriorating - 6
    Dilapidated - 42

Almost one-half of the occupied housing in the township is in substandard condition, and 5 percent of the housing in the township is vacant. There are 160 occupied mobile homes, the highest percentage for any township in the county.

Butterwood Township

Occupied units: 213
    Standard - 141 (66%)
    Deteriorating - 43 (20%)
    Dilapidated - 29 (14%)
Vacant units: 17
    Standard - 1
    Deteriorating - 1
    Dilapidated - 15

About 34 percent of the township's occupied dwelling units are in substandard condition, and 7 percent of the housing in the township is vacant. Mobile homes provide housing for 21 families in the township.

Conoconnara Township

Occupied: 265
    Standard - 152 (57%)
    Deteriorating - 62 (23%)
    Dilapidated - 51 (20%)
Vacant: 24
    Standard - 0
    Deteriorating - 1
    Dilapidated - 23

Thirty-one families live in mobile homes in Conoconnara Township which means that about 12 percent of all occupied housing is mobile homes. Eight percent of all housing in the township is vacant, and all of the vacant housing is substandard. Forty-three percent of occupied housing in the township is substandard with about one-fifth of the township's occupied housing in a state of dilapidation.

Enfield Township

Occupied: 1768
    Standard - 843 (48%)
    Deteriorating - 562 (32%)
    Dilapidated - 363 (20%)
Vacant: 95
    Standard - 2
    Deteriorating - 11
    Dilapidated - 82

Over half of the occupied dwellings in Enfield Township are substandard, and 5 percent of all housing is vacant. Five percent of all occupied housing consists of mobile homes.

Faucett Township

Occupied: 576
    Standard - 372 (65%)
    Deteriorating - 139 (24%)
    Dilapidated - 65 (11%)
Vacant: 79
    Standard - 0
    Deteriorating - 42
    Dilapidated - 37

Twelve percent of the township's housing units are vacant with a large number of those vacant units in repairable condition. Eleven percent of all occupied units are dilapidated, indicating that housing conditions here are relatively better than in some adjacent townships. Mobile homes make up 9 percent of the total occupied units in the township.

Halifax Township

Occupied: 586
    Standard - 378 (65%)
    Deteriorating - 143 (34%)
    Dilapidated - 65 (11%)
Vacant: 22
    Standard - 4
    Deteriorating - 6
    Dilapidated - 12

Halifax Township has a vacancy rate of 4 percent which is one percent lower than that of the county as a whole. Sixty-one mobile homes comprise 10 percent of the township's occupied units while 65 percent of the occupied units are standard.

Littleton Township

Occupied: 1058
    Standard - 837 (79%)
    Deteriorating - 152 (14%)
    Dilapidated - 69 (07%)
Vacant: 66
    Standard - 3
    Deterioarting - 3
    Dilapidated - 60

One hundred twenty-three mobile homes account for 12 percent of all occupied housing units. A relatively high percentage of all occupied housing units are standard compared to the county as a whole. Six percent of the township's housing units are vacant, with a great number of these in dilapidated condition.

Palmyra Township

Occupied: 369
  Standard - 251 (68%)
  Deteriorating - 95 (26%)
  Dilapidated - 23 (06%)
Vacant: 67
  Standard - 1
  Deteriorating - 8
  Dilapidated 58

There are 29 mobile homes in Palmyra Township, comprising 8 percent of all occupied housing in the township. Seven percent of the housing is vacant, with most vacant units in a dilapidated condition.

Roanoke Rapids Township

Occupied: 592
  Standard - 515 (87%)
  Deteriorating - 60 (10%)
  Dilapidated - 17 (03%)
Vacant: 16
  Standard - 5
  Deteriorating - 1
  Dilapidated - 10

The statistics given here do not reflect housing availability or conditions in Roanoke Rapids or South Belmont. The availability of standard housing in the surveyed area of the township shows a high percentage of the units are standard and that the vacancy rate is very low. Sixteen percent of occupied housing is in mobile homes.

Roseneath Township

Occupied: 275
  Standard - 117 (43%)
  Deteriorating - 68 (25%)
  Dilapidated - 90 (32%)
Vacant: 20
  Standard - 1
  Deteriorating - 1
  Dilapidated - 18

Roseneath Township has the highest percentage of dilapidated houses in the county as well as a high percentage of deteriorating houses. There is a seven percent vacancy rate, and mobile homes make up 10 percent of the occupied housing.

Scotland Neck

Occupied: 1117

Standard - 847 (76%)
Deteriorating - 202 (18%)
Dilapidated - 68 (06%)
Vacant: 56
Standard - 2
Deteriorating - 12
Dilapidated - 42

Only 4 percent of the occupied housing in this township is in mobile homes, and 5 percent of all housing is vacant and primarily of a dilapidated nature. The percentage of standard housing units is well above the county average.

Weldon Township

Occupied: 1665
Standard - 1154 (69%)
Deteriorating - 371 (22%)
Dilapidated - 140 (08%)
Vacant: 38
Standard - 0
Deteriorating - 5
Dilapidated - 33

Weldon Township's vacancy rate is only 2 percent which is the lowest in the county. Eight percent of the housing units consist of mobile homes, and the percentage of standard housing in the township is slightly above that of the county as a whole.

Halifax County Totals

Occupied units: 9481
Standard - 6114 (64%)
Deteriorating - 2170 (23%)
Dilapidated - 1197 (13%)
Vacant units: 557 (6%)
Standard - 28
Deteriorating - 97
Dilapidated - 432
Total of all units - 9913

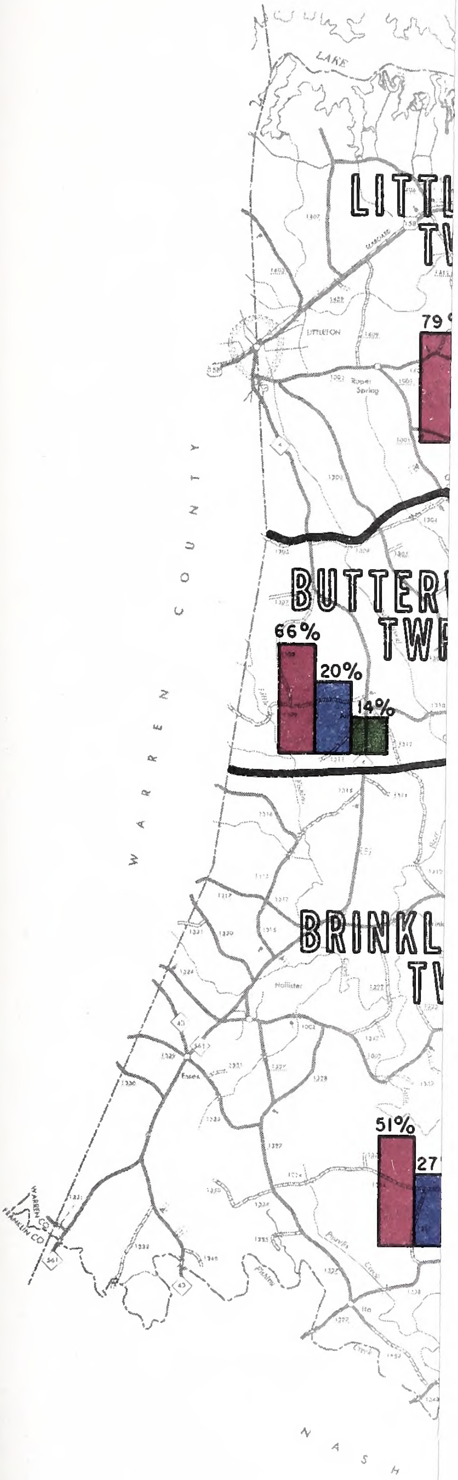
Housing conditions in the county reflect with a fair degree of accuracy the economic conditions in the county. Roanoke Rapids Township is enjoying growth as an area center, and housing conditions tend to reflect the relative prosperity. Enforcement of land use and building regulations may also be responsible for housing conditions. In sparsely populated sections of the county there tend to be larger numbers of occupied units in need of repair and replacement than in developed areas, and vacant dilapidated structures are present in prominent numbers. There is little new construction in the county except in Roanoke Rapids Township and very limited speculative building.

There are no public housing units in use in Halifax County at the present time, but 244 units are either under construction or planned as follows:

Location	No. of Units	Type	Expected Completion
Roanoke Rapids, Georgia Avenue	48	Mixed	Summer, 1976
Roanoke Rapids, West 10th Street	66	Mixed & Elderly	Summer, 1976
Weldon, Near Route 301	78	Mixed	Spring, 1977
Halifax, Dobbs Street	2	Mixed	Spring, 1977
Enfield, Franklin Street	50	Mixed	Summer, 1976

Source: Roanoke Area Housing Authority, March, 1976.

The impact of these new standard housing units on housing quality in the county will be significant, but obviously many more standard units will be needed to remove all of the occupied units from use.


LAKE
LITTL
TW
LITTLETON
Roper Spring
79
BUTTER
TW
66%
20%
14%
BRINKL
TV
Hollister
Essex
51%
27
WARREN COUNTY
WARREN CO
FRANKLIN CO
NASH

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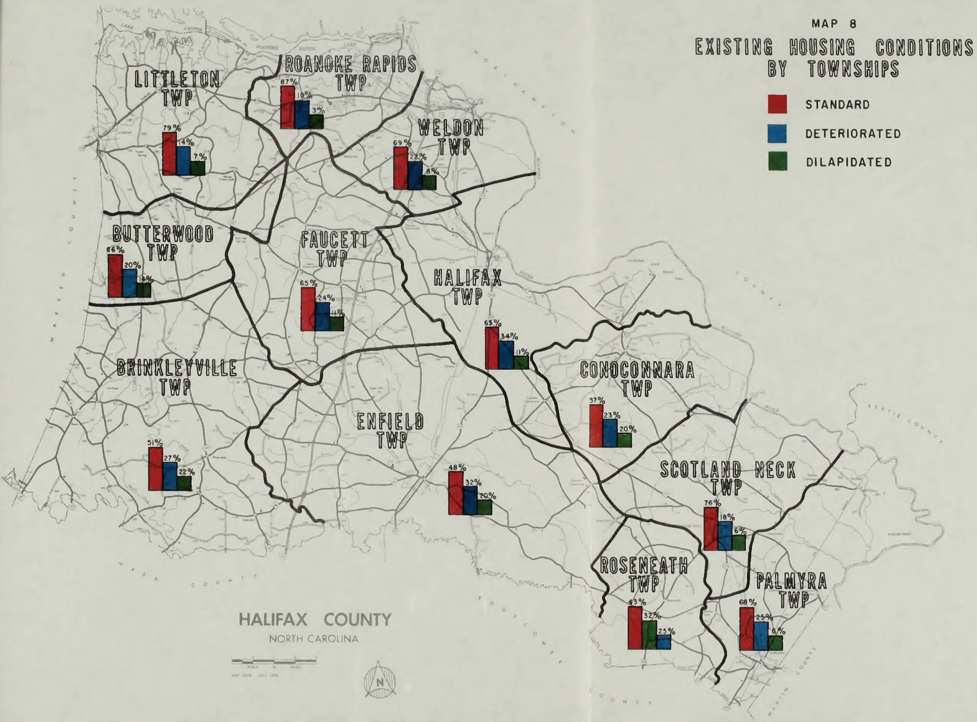
MAP 8

EXISTING HOUSING CONDITIONS BY TOWNSHIPS

THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Introduction

The development plan is a generalized statement of goals and policies which relate to the physical, social, and economic development of the county. This is a long range plan which projects further into the future than do most other plans.

No attempt is made to locate precisely future land uses, since flexibility for short-term decision-making would be impeded by such specificity. As the county zones additional areas of land, decisions should be made on a lot by lot basis using the development plan as a guide. Since it is impossible to determine the location of all land uses in advance of need and development, development policies will provide the basis for the plan.

The plan is a guide for development which should be constantly re-evaluated against county goals and concepts. If the development plan is used properly, it will provide continuity in the desired directions in spite of any changes in appointed or elected officials.

Goals of the County

The development plan is not so much a prediction of what the county will be at some future time as it is the statement of a purposeful direction which will allow the people of the county to realize their aspirations. The plan is based on the following goals:

- High identity - The natural beauty of the county is an important amenity which is largely responsible for giving the county its particular character as well as its pleasant liveability qualities. Increased standardization of building materials and design tend to make all communities look alike, and development sprawl obscures individuality. This plan proposes to discourage such trends.

- Good economic balance - The absence of good job opportunities has encouraged migration from the county. While there are many complex forces which influence industrial location, this plan proposes to encourage potential employers while seeking to preserve the natural environment.

- Social variety - The county must offer a wide range of housing types and good community services if it is to attract a population with varied incomes, ages, and occupations. The wealth of homes of historic significance adds considerably to the attractiveness of housing possibilities in the county and should be taken advantage of as fully as possible.

- Regional awareness - A plan for the county must take regional problems into account. The county must work with other counties and agencies in order to achieve a quality living environment for the people of the region.

- School and community facilities of good quality - As population increases and citizens' needs change, a wider range of public facilities must be planned, constructed, and operated in order to provide all citizens with an opportunity to advance and assume a productive role in society.

- Adequate park and open space facilities - As the county population expands, the need for open space, parks, recreational, and cultural facilities will increase. Whenever possible, sites for these activities should be set aside before the actual need arises.

- Conservation of natural resources - The county must protect the resources which make up the natural environment. Rivers, creeks, and other streams which are irreplaceable must be managed in ways to preserve their natural beauty and usefulness in the environment.

- Public and private partnership - Public and private interests must work together in order to provide a decision making process open to all segments of the population in efforts to achieve a good environment for living for citizens of the county.

- Strong town centers - The communities in the county should be encouraged to develop with strong town centers to provide a definite community organization and form. Older buildings in these areas should be retained and rehabilitated for contemporary use in order to add interest and keep distinctive buildings as part of the townscape.

Coordination with the Proposed North Carolina Land Classification System

In order to include the planning area in the state land classification system which is being developed for presentation to the 1977 North Carolina General Assembly, the most up-to-date version of the proposed system will be used in this plan. The purposes of the state land use classification are as follows:

1) To link local land use plans and state land use policies.

2) To provide a guide for budgeting and planning for public investment in land by early identification of such areas.

3) To help provide information for providing community facilities where they are needed.

4) To help provide a framework for coordinating regulatory policies such as zoning.

5) To provide a framework for developing a more equitable distribution of the land tax burden.

The tentative classification as it is used here consists of the following five classes of land:

1) Developed - Lands where existing population density is moderate to high and where there are a variety of land uses which have the necessary public services.

2) Transition - Lands where local government plans to accommodate moderate to high density development during the following ten year period and where necessary public services will be provided to accommodate that growth.

3) Community - Lands where low density development is grouped in existing settlements or will occur in such settlements during the following ten year period and which will not require extensive public services now or in the future.

4) Rural - Lands whose highest use is for agriculture, forestry, mining, water supply, etc. based on their natural resource potential.

5) Conservation - Fragile, hazard, and other lands necessary to maintain a healthy, natural environment and necessary to provide for the public health, safety, or welfare.

Within each of the five land classes will exist a combination of land uses; for example, in the developed land class will be found residential, commercial, office and institutional, industrial, and open space uses. The five land classes will form a framework with terminology in common use statewide, while the land use categories such as residential and commercial will provide a more definitive way of classifying land uses locally. Industrial sites considered likely for development within the ten year period form a sixth class for the purpose of this study, since industries are strong development generators. Table 5 presents criteria for the allocation of land use:

TABLE 14
DESCRIPTION AND ALLOCATION OF LAND USE

Classification	Description	Criteria for Allocation
Heavy Industrial	Industrial activities involving manufacturing, assembling, processing, bulk handling of products, amounts of storage, and heavy trucking	. Large, flat sites . Access to major transportation routes . Adequate buffering . Land suitable for heavy building . Land not prone to flooding . Availability of utilities

Classification	Description	Criteria for Allocation
Commercial	Downtown & shopping centers Service uses	. Size suited to market demand . Convenient location . Availability of utilities . Level sites suitable for heavy building . Land not prone to flooding
Office and Institutional	Office uses Schools, community buildings, libraries, fire stations, utilities and other public and quasi-public institutions	. Need for facility . Land suitable for specific facility . Location near adequate circulation route . Adequate buffering
Urban Residential	Townhouses and apartments at densities of 3 to 10 dwelling units per acre	. Market demand . Slopes 10% or less . Land free from flooding, slides, erosion, and other hazards . Availability of utilities . Convenient location with good access . Land suitable for homesites or heavy buildings
Suburban Residential	Residential development at a density of 2 to 5 dwelling units per acre	. Market demand . Slopes up to 10% . Land free from flooding, slides, erosion, and other hazards . Availability of utilities . Land suitability for homesites
Ranch Estates	Residential development suitable for limited farming and pasturing of animals with a maximum density of one dwelling unit per 1 acres	. Market demand . Land suitable for grazing and small farming operations . Open space in floodplain

Classification	Description	Criteria for Allocation
Park and Recreation	Public and private parks and other land reserved for recreational use, not including open space within residential developments	. Need for particular facility . Scenic vistas . Protection of areas highly suitable for conservation
Agriculture	Land tracts used primarily for production of livestock, food, or fiber crops	. Productive land . Limitations for more intensive uses such as floodplains

Growth Determinants

Both external and internal factors influence growth in the county; the former, which includes federal, state, and regional policy decisions or general economic conditions, are factors over which the county has little control; the latter includes county policy decisions and the budgeting of monies to achieve the desired goals, and the county is in a position to influence growth through control of these factors.

The county has opportunities to influence external factors many times when they directly affect the county, and it should take the opportunity to do so. Decisions such as the location of a highway through the county or allowing a community to draw large amounts of water from an impoundment directly influence growth.

Internal growth determinants are those over which the county can exercise a large measure of control, including the formulation of utility development policies, policies about land development, and the promotion of industrial development. Local citizens through their elected officials can determine where to encouarge growth, the density of development, what the developer will be responsible for and what citizens-at-large will pay for through their taxes, whether streams and flood prone areas will be protected from unwise development, and whether the historically rich atmosphere of the county will be retained. To a large extent, these powers to control growth and development rest in the hands of Halifax County citizens through their elected public officials. The adoption of a development plan for the county, the development and refinement of tools of implementation, and the acquisition and budgeting of funds can move the county in the direction of the goals it wishes to achieve.

Future Growth Patterns

Desired growth and development for the county can best be achieved by guiding it in ways to insure that land use patterns are functional, efficient to provide with public services, and visually pleasing rather than allowing development to take place in a hit or miss fashion. Growth patterns should take into account the natural features of the land, accessibility to related uses and public services, and the relationship to existing land use patterns.

Criteria have been developed for the location of each category of land use which are used as a basis for selecting particular areas for future land use requirements. They include not only the natural environmental criteria discussed in the intrinsic land suitability section, but also relationships to existing land uses and proximity to needed public services.

Manufacturing

Prime industrial sites are at a premium since location is of major importance for this land use category. The following criteria are suggested for site selection:

1) Relatively level, well-drained soil to minimize grading with underlying geology of good load bearing capacity.

2) Good accessibility to major highways and possibly to rail, air, and water facilities.

3) Adequate water, sewer, and power.

4) Adequate size for expansion and parking.

5) Separation from incompatible land uses.

6) Soil characteristics and geology which will have good drainage and sufficient load bearing capacity to withstand heavy loads.

7) Zoning which will prevent encroachment by incompatible land uses.

Trade

Most communities evolve with a centralized business area with office uses inter-mingled fringed by homes built by townspeople of an earlier era. Often the commercial area came into being when horses provided transportation or people walked from their homes to nearby businesses. Many downtown shopping districts of that era became clogged with automobiles when they became the primary mode of transportation, and businesses often moved out of the central area to locations along major traffic routes. As these routes in their turn become clogged, a third phase is to create shopping centers with vast expanses of pavement for the storage of automobiles. As trade areas evolve through these phases, downtowns are often abandoned, leaving behind a large investment by taxpayers in roads, utilities, and other amenities and taxpayers are once again asked to provide these amenities to outlying shopping centers. Large portions of land are then put under roof and pavement; often the land covered is good agricultural land which will probably never be returned to cultivation. As businesses leave the downtown for the shopping center, property values in the core area usually begin to decline, poorer families move into the area, and wealthier ones move out. The automobile is increasingly required to move from outlying suburban development to shopping center, to place of work, and people increasingly become alienated from each other.

In order to keep or return central business districts to viable use, the following principles should generally be adhered to:

1) Traffic should have adequate ingress and egress with a circumfrential or loop street to help move traffic from one section of the area to another.

2) Adequate off-street parking and loading should be provided.

3) Safe pedestrian ways and pleasant pedestrian open space should be made available.

4) Attention should be given to rejuvenation of commercial buildings without losing their particular characteristics of age, architectural detail, and so on.

5) Care should be given to excessive signs and other users of air space which detract from attractiveness and visibility.

Criteria for shopping centers are as follows:

1) Need for each shopping center should be supported by a good marketability study.

2) The site should be of adequate size and should have easy access to major thoroughfares.

3) Adequate well-marked and lighted on-site parking should be provided with exits located so as not to impede the flow of traffic on adjacent streets.

4) Truck traffic and loading facilities should be separated from customer traffic.

5) Pedestrian and vehicular traffic should be separated.

6) Landscaping and buffering from other uses should be provided.

Whenever downtowns can respond to growth and change sufficiently to serve their trade areas, proliferation of shopping centers should not be encouraged to detract from their viability.

Services

Large bulk-oriented services such as warehousing should locate according to the criteria used for heavy industry. Educational and religious uses such as elementary schools and churches may be located in residential neighborhoods and with adequate parking and accessibility, become focal points for a neighborhood. High schools and technical schools which generate large traffic volumes need to be located near major thoroughfares.

Residential

Criteria for residential areas may include the following:

1) Flat to gently sloping, well-drained land suitable to installation of utilities.
2) Accessibility to places of work, shopping, and cultural activities.
3) Reasonable separation from heavy traffic and other incompatible land use.
4) Compact development for the efficient extension of utilities and the retention of land in agricultural use.
5) Street design which will discourage through traffic internally in the development.
6) Inclusion of recreation and open space in large scale developments.

Cultural, Entertainment, and Recreation

The following criteria are suggested for these types of land uses:

1) Topography suitable for the facility to be developed.
2) Appropriate site size for the facility, appropriately located for the population to be served.
3) Recreation facilities should be combined with school facilities, where feasible, to maximize benefits from tax monies.
4) Flood plains should be used where feasible for recreation use rather than for other, more intense uses.

Transportation, Communications, and Utilities

An integrated, simultaneous development of a preliminary thoroughfare plan along with the land development plan is essential if streets and roads are to be properly located and of sufficient size to accommodate traffic generated by developing land uses of various types. The location of present and future population, commercial, and industrial developments affect the location of streets and highways and, by the same token, the location of major thoroughfares influences the development of land. Consequently, it is essential that thoroughfare planning be fully integrated with all other aspects of the planning and development program.

The major recommendations for the Halifax County road system have been incorporated into the plan are as follows:

1) US 258. It is recommended that US 258 be improved to four travel lanes between Scotland Neck and the Edgecombe County line and between Scotland Neck and the Roanoke River. It is also proposed that a four lane bypass with full control of access be constructed around Scotland Neck. The bypass should include a connector to NC 125 to facilitate its dual use as a NC 125 bypass.

2) US 158. US 158 should be improved to four travel lanes west of Roanoke Rapids. Due to the proximity of the existing highway to the railroad west of SR 1413, a relocation of US 158 west of SR 1413 along an alignment south of Littleton appears to be the most feasible solution. The relocated portion should have full control of access and could possibly be staged with two lanes constructed initially.

3) NC 125. Recommended improvements to NC 125 include proposed bypasses around Hobgood and Scotland Neck and widening of the existing road to 24 feet between Scotland Neck and US 301. The bypass around Scotland Neck is proposed in conjunction with a US 258 bypass. Both bypasses should have full control of access.[1]

Policy Plan

The following general policies are recommended to implement the development plan for Halifax County:

- *Adoption of the Plan as Public Policy:*
  Recommendation: The Halifax County Board of Commissioners, after study, should adopt and update on a continuous basis, the Halifax County Land Potential Study and Land Use Plan as public policy for the county. The plan implementation should be coordinated with other agencies working in the county such as the schools, North Carolina Department of Transportation, and with the county's municipalities.

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[1] Thoroughfare Plan, Halifax County, North Carolina, North Carolina State Highway Commission, Raleigh, 1971.

- Public Works Project Phasing:
  Recommendation: The county Board of Commissioners should continue to coordinate with the county's municipalities and adjoining jurisdictions any capital improvement projects for water, sewer, storm drainage, and transportation.

- Flood Plain Study:
  Recommendation: That the county Board of Commissioners request study of the county's flood plains by an appropriate agency in order to prevent inappropriate development from occurring, provided that costs to the county are not prohibitive.

- Land Development Controls:
  Recommendation: Consideration should be given to county-wide zoning and adoption of subdivision regulations in order to implement the proposals of the land use plan.
  Recommendation: The county should study the effects of exemption from the statewide annexation law with regard to the ability of its municipalities to control growth at their boundaries and provide services in an orderly fashion.

- Contracts:
  Recommendation: The county Board of Commissioners should explore the use of contracts with appropriate municipalities in the county to implement the Land Development Plan for unincorporated parts of the county adjacent to municipalities.

- Regional Cooperation:
  Recommendation: The county should continue to participate actively in the Region L Council of Governments.

- Waste Water Disposal:
  Recommendation: Septic tanks should be allowed only at extremely low densities in areas which have been identified as having severe limitations for septic tank filter fields. Septic tank systems should not be allowed in flood plains, marshes, in areas of intense aquifer recharge, or within 200 feet of a surface water body.

- Transportation:
  Recommendation: Compact urban growth in already urbanized areas of the county should be encouraged in order to facilitate an efficient transportation network as well as the provision of utilities on a timely basis.
  Recommendation: Major arterial highways should not divide neighborhoods, parks, or other unified areas.
  Recommendation: Local streets serving neighborhoods should not encourage through traffic.

- Open Space and Recreation:
  Recommendation: Developers of medium to large-scale residential areas should be encouraged to provide internal open space and recreation sites for their developments.

- Commercial Centers:
  Recommendation: Commercial areas should be developed in clusters rather than as automobile oriented strips.
  Recommendation: Developers of new shopping centers should be required to do market feasibility studies prior to zoning. Site preparation should not be permitted until the land is actually needed for development.

- School and Community Facilities:
  Recommendation: School facilities planning and county development policies should be coordinated to provide school facilities when and where needed.
  Recommendation: The county should study the most feasible organizational framework for providing service to county citizens before dispersing service delivery throughout the county. A determination should be made of whether centralized agencies at the county seat or elsewhere with satellite facilities with dispersal from a central point of a particular agency to another portion of the county will provide better service delivery without the loss of communication between agencies.

- Industrial Development:
  Recommendation: Due to the absence of a county water and sewer system, industries should be located in the municipalities where these services are available, or they should be of sufficient size to provide adequate water and sewerage treatment for their own use.

- Housing:
  Recommendation: Construction of adequate housing should be encouraged.

- Water and Sewer Extension:
  Recommendation: Water and sewer extension policies by the municipalities in the county should be coordinated with the county's land development plan.

- County-Wide Cooperation:
  Recommendation: Consideration should be given to the development of a Halifax governmental committee consisting of representatives of the county government and the municipal governmental units within the county to meet on a regular basis to assess their opportunities for intergovernmental coordination and create a forum for solving mutual problems.

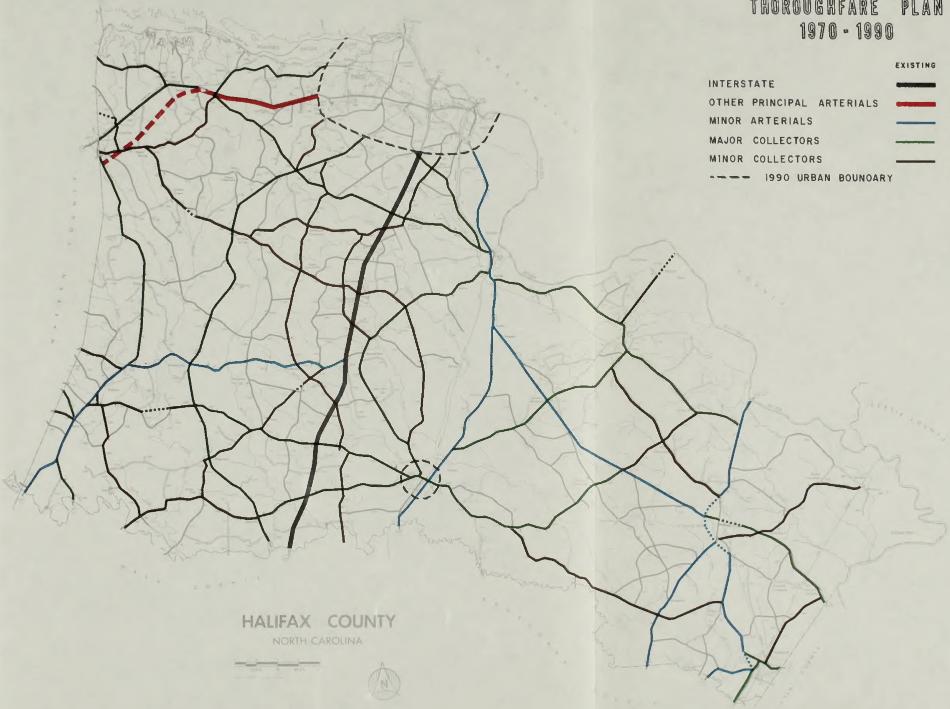
LAKE
LITTLETON
Airlie
Hollister
WARREN COUNTY
WARREN CO.
FRANKLIN CO.
NASH

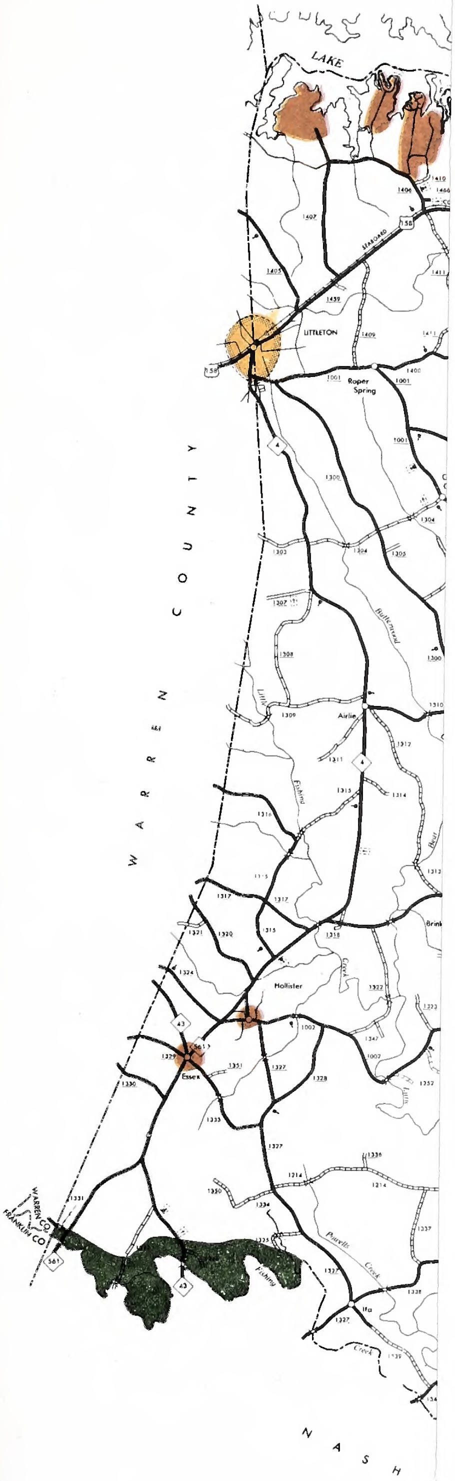
MAP 9

THOROUGHFARE PLAN 1970 - 1990

	EXISTING	PROPOSED
INTERSTATE	━━━	■ ▬ ▬ ■
OTHER PRINCIPAL ARTERIALS	━━━	▬ ▬ ▬
MINOR ARTERIALS	———	··········
MAJOR COLLECTORS	———	··········
MINOR COLLECTORS	———	··········

- — — 1990 URBAN BOUNOARY

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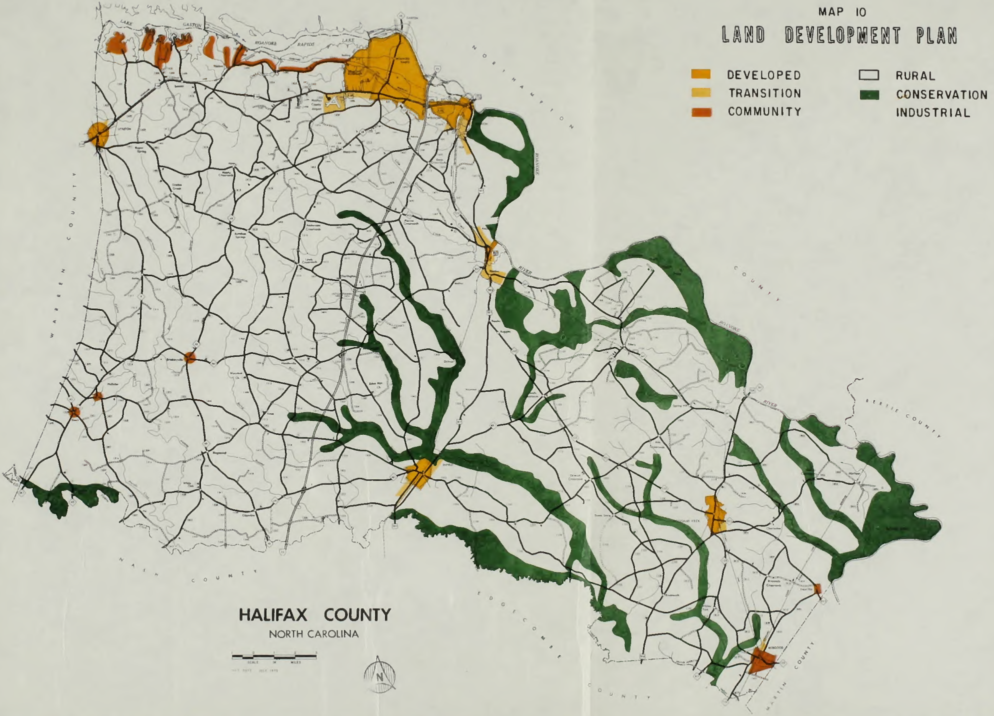

MAP 10

LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Appendix A
Environmental Assessment Statement

1. Summary

The Halifax County Land Potential Study and Land Development Plan comprise a two-part study with the first part assessing the county's land potential with an emphasis on the natural environment and the second portion proposing a plan for future land development. Since the only portion of the county which is zoned, except by the municipalities, is the area round Lake Gaston, the development plan will provide a basis for additional zoning as needed as well as other land use controls.

2. Environmental Impact of the Proposed Plan

The proposed plan takes into account environmentally sensitive areas such as flood plains and swamps and refrains from showing urban development for these areas. If the plan is implemented through zoning and other land control measures, the environmental impact will be very positive.

3. Adverse Environmental Effects which cannot be Avoided should the Proposed Plan be Implemented

No adverse environmental effects are forseen if this plan is implemented.

4. Alternatives to the Proposed Plan and Analysis of those Alternatives

One alternative was that no plan be formulated and adopted, which would result in the absence of any planning for a major portion of Halifax County. A variety of plans could have been formulated for the county. In general the same basic information would probably have been gathered for any plan for the county. The proposed North Carolina Land Classification System as the basis for the plan was felt to provide an appropriate level for planning for a rural county, and the natural features as well as industrial site locations logically determined growth areas. The particular plan decided upon was determined to be the most appropriate one for the county at this time.

5. Relationship Between the Short-Term Use of Man's Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity

If the county's population increases, additional land will be needed for urban uses, resulting in a long-term commitment of a natural resource. The plan suggests that much land be left in the rural or agricultural category to be phased into more intensive use as needed on a carefully evaluated basis.

6. Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources if the Proposed Plan is Implemented

The major resource to be committed if the plan is implemented is land which would be used in any case for development should the demand arise. Wise planning will help assure that the commitment of land for development will reflect actual need for changed use of the land and that fragile areas will be protected.

7. Other Interests and Considerations or State Policy Thought to Offset Adverse Environmental Effects of the Proposed Plan

Since any adverse environmental effects, if any, would be minimal if the plan is implemented, no other interests and considerations or State policy are needed.

8. Applicable Federal, State, or Local Environmental Controls

A.	Federal:	National Environmental Policy Act
B.	State:	Subdivision and Zoning Enabling Legislation North Carolina Sedimentation Pollution Control Act Open Space Acquisition Floodways Regulations
C.	Local:	Halifax County Sanitary Regulations

9. Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize Environmental Impacts

Flood plain regulations need to be adopted to control floodways in the county.